

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Successor for Neivens

Mr John Thornton, commander of the police area covering north-east London, is to succeed Deputy Assistant Commissioner Peter Neivens as Director of Information at Scotland Yard tomorrow.

Mr Neivens is to become executive director of the new company formed by Trident Television to take over Playboys' gaming activities.

Mr Thornton joined the Metropolitan Police in 1950. He is a former head of A7, the Yard's community relations branch. Four years ago he visited the West Indies to study the Trinidad carnival and methods of controlling high-spirited crowds.

Four die in fires at their homes

Two children and two adults died in fires at their homes over the new year holiday. A boy aged nine months was killed when fire swept through a fourth floor flat in Vauxhall south London, on Thursday night and yesterday Greig Luther, aged six, died, in a blaze in Livingston, near Edinburgh.

In Paisley, Scotland, Mary Carlin, aged 52, was killed despite a rescue attempt by neighbours. In Glasgow a middle-aged man died in Craigmiles.

Wanted IRA man in Eire

Desmond Mackin, the Belfast man wanted in Northern Ireland for the attempted murder of a British soldier, said at Dublin airport on Thursday after arriving from the United States that he did not think any further attempt would be made by Britain to extradite him, because there was not enough evidence. Mr Mackin, aged 27, spent 13 months in jail in New York. He was arrested as an illegal immigrant after he went to the United States to campaign on behalf of republican prisoners.

Nerve bomb protest

About a hundred East Anglia members of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament marched on New Year's Eve from the Bentwaters to the Lakenheath United States Air Force bases in Suffolk, to protest against the possible storage of nerve gas bombs in Britain.

Heart surgery at 90

Mrs Mary Heath, a widow, of Sherwood Road, Tideswell, Derbyshire, was said to be the oldest patient at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield, yesterday after being fitted with a heart pacemaker the day after her nineteenth birthday.

Postmaster stabbed

Two men who stabbed Mr Douglas Barrett, aged 62, a sub-postmaster, in his shop in Southwick, West Sussex, were being sought by the police yesterday. Mr Barrett's condition in Worthing Hospital was satisfactory.

Dressings warning

India is to allow the export of surgical dressings such as those found in Britain to be contaminated with bacteria, provided they are labelled: "To be sterilized before use" or "non-sterile", it was announced in New Delhi.

Britain through the worst, Thatcher says

By George Clark

In a series of television and radio interviews on Thursday Mrs Margaret Thatcher sounded a note of optimism about the prospects for economic recovery in the new year.

She acknowledged that the Government's tough policies had brought unemployment and unpopularity at the polls, but looked forward to better times. "I think we are through the worst," she said. People were now realizing that the only way to get the economy right was to produce goods at a price and quality that pleased the customer.

"We are doing that far better now than we have for a long time," she said. "Exports are holding up well and I hope next year that we shall get a bigger share of the home market."

The British housewife was a shrewd buyer and bought what she believed was the best value for her money. Mrs Thatcher wanted her to say more about the new year, because that kind of value was being offered by British firms.

Her replies on unemployment were not so optimistic. When interviewed for Independent Television, she said: "Unfortunately unemployment is the very last thing to respond, because many factories can produce more goods than they are producing now and they are on any more supply. That is always so when you are getting increased technology so we really have to give a great deal of incentive and help to small businesses."

More employment would come as industry grew more competitive and won

more orders at home and overseas. "Things are improving very much so," she told Mr Peter Allen of LBC radio. "Output is going up. Output per hour and per employee is at an all-time record. Productivity is going up. Costs for each unit produced have been very good this year, almost steady, and much more competitive."

She hoped the trend would continue. Countries which had been keeping down inflation were those which had the lowest unemployment. The two elements were linked. Although there had been "a little bit of change on tactics" in response to the critics, the Government would not alter its basic policies. Conservative policies had meant that the improvement was soundly based, and not based on printing money or on artificial incomes policy.

On ITN Mrs Thatcher said: "There is much more hope ahead this coming year than there has been at the depth of world recession. I believe we passed the depth some time during this year."

In another interview, Mrs Thatcher attacked the Social Democratic Party. It was significant, she said, that the SDP had not joined the Liberal Party, presumably because it was not left-wing enough.

"That means that most of them, had the Labour Party won the last general election, would have been sitting with the Labour Party, with some of them in a Labour Cabinet with Mr Wedgwood Benn and his confederates, being pulled farther to the left."

Labour MPs form group to change policy on EEC

By Our Political Staff

Labour MPs at Westminster and Strasbourg have formed a new group with the aim of changing the party's policy commitment to take Britain out of the European Economic Community. The group is called the Red Rose, adopting the symbol used by many socialist parties in Europe.

They are writing to Labour MPs and trade union leaders known to be sympathetic, asking them to join in campaigning in the party to show "the positive side of the British position and the disadvantages of coming out of Europe. They hope to announce the names of leading members of the party who support them when they hold their first annual meeting in March.

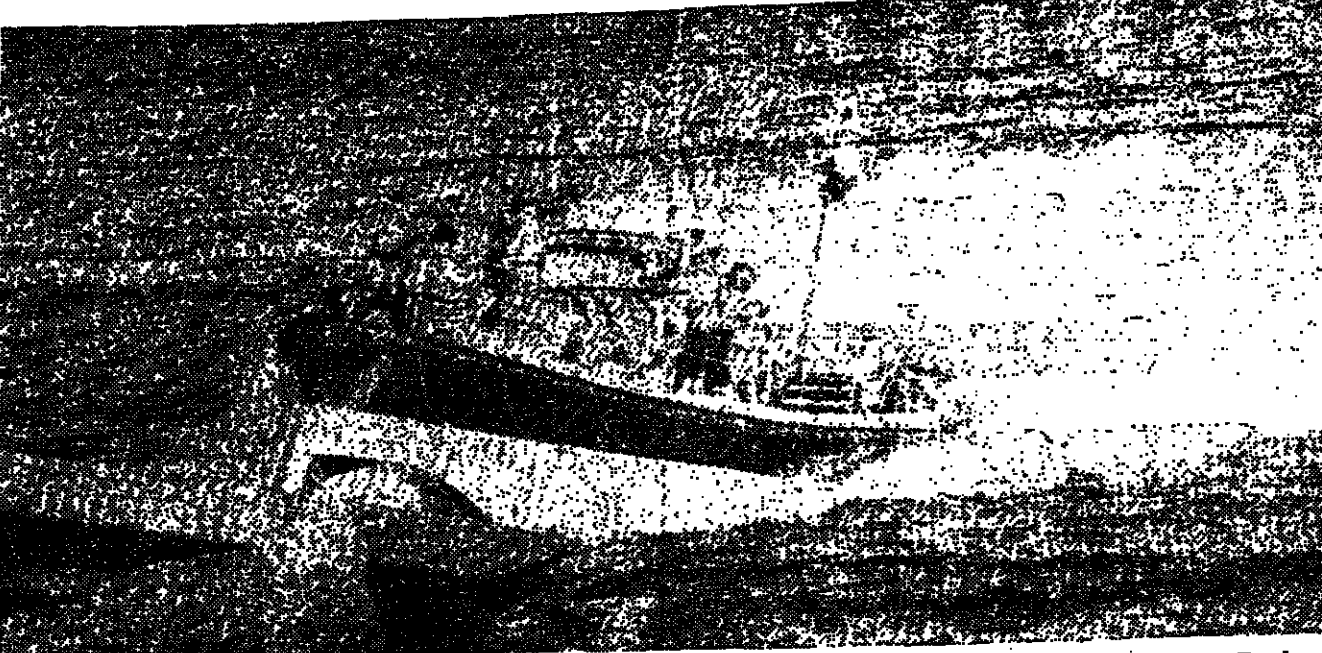
Mr Palmer said: "It is remarkable that of all the socialist parties in Europe, it is only the British Labour Party which takes a nationalistic line."

If France can now proceed with a socialist programme, including a lot of industrialization, why should we not do the same? Mr Wedgwood Benn and others claim that we would not be able to carry out our programme.

One of the European MP members is Mr Kenneth Collins, who is deputy leader of the Labour Party group in the Strasbourg Parliament. He argues that the Red Rose is just as critical of the EEC as any of the anti-market-ers, but instead of retreating defensively into a "Little England" position it is committed to changes in Europe.

The whole pattern of trade has changed, the bulk of our exports now go to the Community. We could not regain our Commonwealth markets, even if we wanted to."

Members of the group believe that the Labour Party



The new Penlee lifeboat, Charles Henry Ashley, making a trial run after its launching from the Penlee lifeboat house yesterday. It was manned by the new Mousehole crew.

Optimism in Mousehole as crew goes back

Continued from page 1

Mr Mike Sutherland, the deputy launching officer and emergency coxswain, said yesterday that the action had been called off "as a result of the support and interest shown by MPs and, I believe, the Prime Minister". He said: "We are satisfied that the necessary steps are being taken to look after the families of our lost colleagues."

Mr Sutherland made it clear that if it became apparent that nothing was being done, lifeboatmen could take individual action. He said: "I personally feel so strongly about this that I would resign. I have stuck my neck out and I must stand by my views."

The potential legal obstacles to the distribution of the money fund became apparent when its 10 trustees sought advice from counsel. It is understood that if the Charity Commission decides next week that the £1.5m appeal is eligible for charitable status, then the dependants of the eight dead

lifeboatmen will be able to receive cash to meet "reasonable needs". The Penlee fishermen's fund of £250,000 is likely to escape the pitfalls of the charity law because it was established merely as a financial "post box" for donations.

The Charity Commission said it had not seen the terms of the fund, but if the worst came to the worst it could be deemed a private fund, not a trust, which could then render it liable to tax.

In a statement, the trustees of the fund said that counsel had advised that the amount of income which the trustees could legally distribute to the bereaved was limited to their living in the standard of the dependants. They would have to apply for other charitable purposes.

The law of charitable trusts did not permit an unlimited distribution to the dependants, but only awards according to the standard of living the dependants would have enjoyed if the tragedy had not happened.

While Mr Moore said that all ways would be investigated to distribute the maximum



Mrs Jacqueline Brockman, the widow of Mr Nigel Brockman, who died in the lifeboat disaster, and Kevin Brockman, one of her sons, at their home in Mousehole yesterday.

amount to the families Mr George Lawry, chairman of the Newlyn and District Fishermen's Association, said the £250,000 in his fund would be divided between the dependants.

Yesterday, Mr John Prescott, Labour MP for Hull East, who is sponsored by the National Union of Seamen, said he would seek a meeting with the Charity

Commission about the "totally unsatisfactory situation" over the Penlee fund. He said his interpretation of "reasonable needs" was too narrowly drawn and he would seek all party support to change the law.

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Roads and rail cut by floods

By David Nicholson-Lord

Two people died over the new year holiday as the snow and ice maintained its grip on Scotland and northern England. Farther south many areas were flooded. In Gloucestershire heavy rain and a sudden thaw brought the worst flooding of the River Severn for 13 years.

The Midlands and East Anglia were the worst affected by floods, which caused many roads to be impassable. Dozens of homes around Gloucester and Tewkesbury were under water yesterday as the Severn rose 12ft in 24 hours. Several riverside public houses were cut off.

Mr David Deakin, of the Lower Load Hotel, at Forthampton, near Tewkesbury, said: "We have been flooded before but never anything like this. We have got plenty of food and will fight until the water goes down."

The Severn-Trent Water Authority last night warned people in the Gloucester area to sandbag their homes, as further flooding was expected.

A student from Imperial College, London, died in the Cairnmore as he attempted to climb the Hell's Lum crag, near the Aviemore outdoor centre. Mr Peter Robinson, of Chatham, Kent, was one of five undergraduates in the climbing party.

Rescue attempts were hampered by sleet, snow and driving rain. Mr Robinson's body was found on New Year's Eve after a student climbed down to raise the alarm. Another Mr Mark Bowles, from near Hinckley, Leicestershire, was flown to hospital with head injuries.

In Derbyshire a boy aged eight drowned when he slipped through ice while playing on a frozen canal 100 yards from his home. Garry Thorpe, of Cotnamhay, near Ilkeston, died despite being given the kiss of life by firemen and ambulancemen who had formed a chain across the ice while searching for the boy.

Flooding elsewhere led to the closure of the A44 at Evesham and Pershore, in Hereford and Worcester, where the River Avon burst its banks and produced 5ft of flood water. Several streets in Kidderminster were awash. In Derbyshire flooding on the track at Draycott, Spondon and Long Eaton disrupted trains to Derby, Nottingham and St Pancras, London.

Essex, Norfolk and Leicestershire were also affected by floods. Motorists in the north Midlands, the Peak District and Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cumbria and Durham faced treacherous roads caused by ice and fog. Some stretches of motorway had speed limits of 20 mph.

In Sharnford, Nottinghamshire, police and rescue workers used boats to save nearly a hundred animals, including horses, pigs and greyhounds, when the River Trent burst its banks and flooded a farm yesterday.

Secret papers Maclean's split mind revealed

By Peter Hennessy and Keith Jeffery

The flow of polished minutes Donald Maclean, the British Diplomat who spied for Russia, continued to write for Foreign Office superiors until the very moment of his defection to the Soviet Union, is displayed in secret Whitehall documents for 1951 to be declassified on Monday under the 30-year rule.

Maclean's own files illuminate what Mr Robert Cecil, his successor as head of the FO's American Department, remembered yesterday as "a brilliantly split mind in which both sides functioned", enabling him to compartmentalize his work for his Majesty's Government and his services to Stalin.

Maclean's *sang froid* in the last days of May 1951, is all the more remarkable as he had known since mid-April that he was under suspicion. On April 17 Herbert Morrison, the Foreign Secretary, had given permission for him to be investigated in earnest and almost immediately Maclean stopped receiving his special briefings containing top secret papers, intercepted diplomatic signals and intelligence reports.

He continued, however, to be sent routine political summaries and messages exchanged between the FO and the British Embassy in Washington. It is to those papers that he appended the last of his comments.

Maclean's minutes show him, like most of his FO colleagues, to have been worried and depressed by what he regarded as the excesses and simplistic anti-communism of American public opinion and the powerlessness of the Truman Administration to do much about it as the Korean war continued to rage.

On May 23, two days before his hurried night journey to Southampton with

his fellow spy, Guy Burgess, en route for France and then for Moscow, he wrote the last submission traceable to him in the 1951 papers. The document depicts him as despairing of events in the Far East and suggesting "that only some arresting statement of policy by our Russian ally, the Commonwealth as a whole, would stand a chance of turning the tide".

Though File Q23, the FO Security Department's archive on the Burgess and Maclean affair, has failed to survive, the Public Record Office in Kew, and the Security Service's dossier on the case remain firmly under lock and key in the Mayfair headquarters of MI5. Maclean's own papers show just how valuable he remained to the Russians during a period of acute international tension until Britain's spycatchers began to close in on him.

As recently as March, 1951, he was arranging a series of meetings with senior FO officials for Sir Oliver (now Lord) Franks, British Ambassador to Washington, to take place during Sir Oliver's return to London for consultations. The wide-ranging discussions would have given the KGB, via Maclean, an invaluable insight into the most private concerns troubling the United States and his chief European ally.

The newly-released documents at the PRO also give some idea of the shock with which Whitehall greeted the news of Burgess and Maclean's defection. On June 10, three days after the story broke in the Daily Express, Mr Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, sent a personal minute to Morrison informing him: "I should like to have a report on these men and their careers as soon as they are available."

"It appears to be known that their characters were unsatisfactory. Was any consideration given to these matters in continuing them in the Service or in appointing them to positions of responsibility? There is likely to be a lot of public criticism."

Newspaper 'spy in cab' dispute settled

By Donald MacIntyre, Labour Correspondent

The threat to distribution of most national newspapers was lifted last night after the employers agreed to make a £1.75 per shift payment in return for use in delivery vans of the tachograph, the "spy in the cab".

The Society of Graphical and Allied Trades threatened an official strike after the employers had refused a claim from about 1,000 national newspaper delivery drivers.

EEC regulations require tachographs, which provide an automatic log of drivers' hours, to be fitted in all goods vehicles of 3.5 tonnes and over.

The Times, The Sun, The Daily Telegraph, Daily Mirror, Daily Mail and northern editions of the Daily Express and Daily Star had been

threatened because they are all taken from offices to main line rail termini in vans above the prescribed tonnage in weight.

The agreement reached last night after two days of talks under the auspices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service says that the payment will be made in return for drivers actually required to drive a vehicle which needs a tachograph to be used during that particular shift.

The agreement also provides that there will be no "repercussive" or "knock on" claims from any other sections of Sogat arising from the deal.

The payment will not be consolidated into this year's national pay award but will qualify for future nationally

negotiated percentage increases.

Sogat failed during the talks to persuade the employers to increase the special shift payment for Saturday nights and have served notice that they will try to do so in a year's time.

Mr William Miles, national officer of Sogat, said last night that the union had set out to persuade the employers that the tachograph imposed additional responsibilities and might also offer management data on which they could cut costs and improve productivity.

He said: "We have talked for two days and I believe the settlement reflects credit on the employers and the union. That is what industrial relations is all about, talking to resolve your difficulties

Science report

Complex genes from one ancestor

By the Staff of "Nature"

A thorough analysis of the structure of a complex gene for a mouse protein has revealed exceptionally strong evidence of the evolution of a family of complex genes from a single, simple ancestor. It is the emergence of exactly that kind of evidence that further strengthens biologists' belief in Darwin's general theory of evolution.

The gene, scrutinized by Dr Shirley Tilghman and her collaborators at the Fox Chase Cancer Centre in Philadelphia, codes for alpha-fetoprotein.

Although abnormally large quantities of that protein in the blood of a pregnant woman happens to predict spina bifida in the child she is carrying, very little is known of its function.

It has become increasingly clear in the past year that the structure of alpha-fetoprotein has emerged from several laboratories, that the structure has more than a passing resemblance to that of albumin, the most abundant protein in blood serum.

Like albumin, alpha-fetoprotein appears to be constructed from three very similar blocks. A direct comparison of each block of the two proteins indicates that two of the three, at least, are similar enough to suggest that they have a common origin.

Dr Tilghman has followed up those clues by examining the gene for mouse alpha-fetoprotein, since it is in the structure of the gene, rather than the protein it codes for, that the traces of molecular evolution are likely to be most visible.

Like most mammalian genes that of alpha-fetoprotein turned out to be split into stretches of DNA that coded for parts of the protein molecule but were interspersed with stretches that did not.

A complete analysis of the positioning of the splits in the coding sequence of the gene in relation to specific structural regions of the protein revealed such a clear pattern of concordance that the three similar blocks which had been glimpsed in the protein structure became clearly visible in the gene structure. Each block contains four coding sequences and there is a marked resemblance between the arrangement of the four coding sequences in each block.

The conclusion drawn by Dr Tilghman and her collaborators is that the three blocks have evolved from a single ancestor by a process of triplication. Further examination of the four coding sequences in each block shows that the sequences themselves are so closely related that they, too, probably had a common origin.

In all likelihood, therefore, the genes for alpha-fetoprotein and albumin arose from a far smaller, common primordial gene. In the first stage, the primordial gene evolved into four related versions separated by non-coding stretches of DNA. In the next stage, this triplicated gene was duplicated to mega-unit and finally, something like 400,000 years ago, duplication of the mega-unit took place. From the duplicates there have evolved, by a continual process of diversification and modification, the present alpha-fetoprotein and albumin genes.

Source: *Nature* 294, page 713 (December 24/31, 1981).
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AVEBURY RESIGNS ON MAPLIN

Lord Avebury, the Liberal peer, resigned yesterday from the Town and Country Planning Association because it is to support Maplin as the third airport for London. He was vice-president.

He told the association: "The last time this was a public issue the Liberal Party fought against any new airport for London on the grounds that traffic growth did not justify a large expansion of capacity."

He said he could not remain a vice-president or even a member of an organization committed to this cause. "I therefore tender my resignation and I shall seek to persuade other Liberals and conservatives to resign en masse to frustrate this policy and to ensure that the funds available to you for your campaign are as limited as we can make them."

Overseas selling prices
Australia \$2.25, Bahrain \$2.00, Belgium 1.75, Canada \$2.00, Denmark 1.75, France 1.75, Germany 1.75, Greece 1.75, Hong Kong 1.75, India 1.75, Italy 1.75, Japan 1.75, Korea 1.75, Kuwait 1.75, Lebanon 1.75, Libya 1.75, Luxembourg 1.75, Malaysia 1.75, Mexico 1.75, Netherlands 1.75, New Zealand 1.75, Norway 1.75, Oman 1.75, Pakistan 1.75, Portugal 1.75, Saudi Arabia 1.75, Singapore 1.75, South Africa 1.75, Spain 1.75, Sweden 1.75, Switzerland 1.75, Taiwan 1.75, Thailand 1.75, Turkey 1.75, U.A.E. 1.75, U.K. 1.75, U.S.A. 1.75, Venezuela 1.75.

TV firm's launching halted by dispute

By Kenneth Gosling

A one-hour "celebratory splash" to announce the arrival of Central Independent Television in the East Midlands was cancelled last night when electricians blacked the company's studios at Giltbrook, Nottingham.

Viewers were instead shown programmes from Birmingham, headquarters of the western side of the new dual region operated by Central as ATV's successors. The electricians want substantial pay increases and higher manning levels to compensate for the move from the Elstree studios, at Borehamwood, Hertfordshire.

Mr Jeremy Taylor, eastern area general manager, said the average annual earnings of Central's 120 electricians were about £20,000. "The demands they are making would increase that fairly substantially, certainly by several thousands a year, and we are not prepared to pay that much more," he said. Agreement has been reached with other unions for operating local programmes from Nottingham, where a £20m television centre is to be built on a 17-acre site at Lenton Lane, to replace the temporary Giltbrook studios.

There will be no production from Nottingham until the dispute is settled and no talks are likely before next Monday. Central had prefaced its new Midlands look with a series of newspaper advertisements featuring unidentified flying objects, an indirect reference to the company's white globe symbol. The "teasers" caused trouble with a local magistrate whose name they inadvertently used.

Elsewhere in the country new television companies introduced themselves with fewer difficulties. Lord Boston of Faversham, chairman of TV South, the successors to Southern Television, ran the company flag up the mast at the Southampton studios and then flew by helicopter for similar ceremonies at Dover and Maidstone and in the Medway towns.

Television South West from Plymouth was launched with a 90-minute variety show featuring Lenny Bennett and Spike Milligan last night. "A very smooth operation", the company said.

Fewer days lost by 1981 strikes

By a Staff Reporter

Last year was one of the most strike-free for 14 years, with only 1976 showing fewer working days lost, according to figures published by the Department of Employment. Of the 4,041,000 working days lost between January and November, 1981, 1,254,000 were mainly accounted for by the Civil Service strikes of March and April, under the heading of administrative, financial and professional services. The December figures are expected to be very low.

The figures below show the number of working days lost every year for the past 14 years.

1968:	4,690,000;	1969:	6,846,000;	1970:	10,980,000;
1971:	13,551,000;	1972:	13,909,000;	1973:	7,197,000;
1974:	14,750,000;	1975:	6,012,000;	1976:	3,284,000;
1977:	10,142,000;	1978:	9,405,000;	1979:	29,474,000;
1980:	11,964,000;	1981:	4,041,000 (excluding Decem-		

ber.



Beauties, not the beast: swans grace the mysterious waters of Loch Ness by Castle Urquhart

Serene waters shroud an enigma that never varies

By Ronald Faux

In Drumnadrochit there are those who believe and those who do not. The village, near Loch Ness, has lived with its famous mystery for generations and now lives from it. The question of a "thing" cruising the lightless depths of the loch, surfacing occasionally to give the world a paleolithic leer, is the stuff of which tourist board dreams are made.

The monstrous rumour is now the biggest employer in Drumnadrochit and the more doubt and cold water that are cast on the likelihood of a latter-day plesiosaur swim-

ming near by, the more, it seems, do people want to believe. Whatever "it" may turn out to be, "it" has an excellent sense of theatre. There is never more than a teasing glimpse before it disappears into the water, leaving a trail of bubbles and a few ripples on the surface.

The monstrous rumour is now the biggest employer in Drumnadrochit and the more doubt and cold water that are cast on the likelihood of a latter-day plesiosaur swim-

like the clues from a Conan Doyle thriller. The catch for the sceptics, of course, is the 4,000 documented sightings. The Loch Ness Monster Exhibition has an impressive record of people who claim to have seen "it". Mr Anthony Harmsworth, curator of the exhibition, which attracts 50,000 visitors a year, believes that an answer may be found sooner than many expect. The electronic machinery that can track down fish should with inescapable accuracy be joining the search.

The lack of physical evidence is quite understandable, according to Mr Harmsworth, who said: "In temperatures below 42°F bacteria do not form gases, so that dead matter does not float. It sinks into the sediment 720 ft down and stays there."

But for the avowed monster-hunters there is the fascination of chasing a famous shadow, the prospect of a fortune if they actually catch the beast, and if all else fails there are few pastimes more congenial than pottering about on a beautiful loch.

NUR split over action to curb extreme left

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Leaders of the National Union of Railwaymen, who have been prominent in the Labour Party drive against Trotskyist infiltration, are conducting an internal campaign against the extreme left.

But the NUR executive cannot agree on action against Communists, supporters of the Militant Tendency, and other Broad Left activists, and the report of a moderate-dominated inquiry team has been rejected.

The railwaymen's lay leadership voted by 17-7 to reject the inquiry committee's report signed by Mr Thomas Bam, the union's president, and Mr Sidney Weighell, the general secretary, which called for sanctions against outside bodies seeking to influence NUR policy.

The report condemned the "interference" in union affairs of some well-known NUR left-wingers as being in breach of rule, and said that publications such as *Militant* ought not to be discussed at branch meetings.

100,000 enjoy Trafalgar Square new year revelry

New year revellers, estimated at 100,000 by the police, packed Trafalgar Square, London, to mark the start of 1982. At one stage the tightly packed crowd stretched halfway along Whitehall. A few of the harder ones kept up the custom of taking a very cold dip in the fountain.

The police said that the crowd, one of the biggest of its kind, was generally well-behaved. One or two people were arrested accused of being drunk and disorderly. A few minor bottle-throwing incidents were reported.

"Apart from that, everybody seems to have had a good time", a spokesman stated. More than a hundred people were treated in hospital for minor injuries. Others received attention for cuts.

There'll be a welcome in the valleys

From Tim Jones, Merthyr Tydfil

Forget Tenerife and let the names of Treherbert, Tony-pandy and Tredegar trip from the tongue. Soon, holiday companies will be beguiling people to warmer climes, but can Greek islands and Mediterranean shores compare with the sun setting over Nantgarw Colliery?

Last year Wales became the most popular destination in Britain for short holidays, and in the Greek islands the market the Wales Tourist Board has started to promote the great industrial valleys of the South.

It is an audacious move and even the board admits in its brochure: "We might think that we are perhaps not quite serious. The valleys have historically been associated with coal, iron and steel production and the attendant gaunt, dark images."

For the intending visitor, perhaps the greatest of the valleys is Merthyr Tydfil, the town which spawned the industrial revolution, nurtured Chartism and elected the first Labour MP.

Alarm over parachutists jumping from TV masts

By a Staff Reporter

The British Parachute Association is threatening to discipline members who jump from television masts, suspension bridges or tall buildings. The association fears that the American craze for parachuting from fixed objects such as skyscrapers and cliffs may be spreading to Britain and is concerned that someone may be killed or seriously injured because the brief space of time a parachute has to open during a low-level drop leaves no room for mishaps.

Mr Charles Sheehy-Simonds, the association chairman, said: "It is far too risky. It has taken years to have parachuting accepted as a safe sport. People who act dangerously like this are doing the sport no good at all."

In Britain jumping from less than 2,000 ft above the ground is forbidden. That gives time for the parachute to open properly or for the reserve to operate. But the association has had reports of parachutists jumping from television masts at Dover and Ipswich. The Independent Broadcasting Authority has complained to the association, and warned it that if people persist they may be prosecuted.

Court backs Gandhi on transfer of judges

From Kuldip Nayyar, Delhi, Jan 1

High court judges can be transferred from one state to another without the need to obtain their consent, the Supreme Court of India has ruled in a majority judgment.

Since her return to power, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has been insisting on the executive prerogative to transfer a judge and not even to take the advice of the Chief Justice of India who, according to the Indian constitution should be consulted on transfers.

The Supreme Court judgment says that the Chief Justice "has no primacy" and that if there is any difference between the President (in other words, the government) and the Chief Justice on transfer or appointment, the President is entitled to reach his own decision.

The Supreme Court has also upheld the Law Minister's circular which asked the state chief ministers to obtain an undertaking from temporary judges that they would accept transfer in case they were considered for a permanent appointment.

As many as 16 judges were transferred from one high court to another during the emergency (1975-77). The Janata government (1977-79) revoked the transfers but Mrs Gandhi took up the matter soon after her return to power.

The case, which was argued for four months since last September, assumed importance because it also involved the chief justices of Tamil Nadu and Bihar, who were transferred.

The chief justice of Tamil Nadu has since resigned and the Bihar chief justice has challenged his transfer. The Supreme Court has upheld the transfer of chief justices.

Mrs Gandhi wanted to transfer all chief justices but the Chief Justice of India refused, while saying that he was willing to consider each case on merit.

The Supreme Court has also set at rest the controversy over the extension of a high court judge's term of office. It says that the government has the power to discontinue the office of a temporary judge after the expiry of his term.

The case related to M. Justice S. N. Kumar and M. Justice O. N. Vohra, both Delhi High Court judges who had delivered judgments during the emergency which Mrs Gandhi disagreed.

Valencia autonomy issue wrecks Madrid pact

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Jan 1

A political row has broken out between Spain's ruling centre Democrats and the opposition Socialists over devolution, which had been one of the key issues settled in a pact between the two parties after the military coup attempt in February.

Breaking the customary calm over the new year holiday, leaders of both parties have traded insults and adopted uncompromising positions which have the appearance of a trial run for a general election to be held this year instead of next.

The focus of discord is Valencia, economically one of the most prosperous regions but yet to achieve full autonomy. The Socialists are strong locally but are confronted by right-wing Centre Democrats allied with the increasingly influential followers of Señor Manuel Fraga, the conservative leader and victor in the recent Galician regional elections.

In spite of the pact signed in July by the Prime Minister and the Socialists, the Centre Democrats in parliament have now agreed with Señor Fraga's followers to amend the autonomy statute for Valencia on three highly emotional issues: the region's future flag, its title, and the status of the local language or dialect.

Claiming that local Centre Democrats are "kicking the Prime Minister in the shins", Señor Alfonso Guerra, deputy leader of the Socialists, says that his party will not now contribute its votes to the two-thirds majority required to enable parliament to set up an autonomous region.

He accused the Government of preparing, in spite of denials, the ground for an early appeal to the voters, giving as an example the increases, approved at Tuesday's cabinet, of state pensions.

Señor Guerra singled out Señor Emilio Artad as the power behind the prime minister. He is the chairman of the parliamentary commission now handling Valencia's autonomy statute, the region's best-known Centre Democrat MP and recently appointed a special adviser to Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo.

Valencia was the scene of one of the most dramatic episodes during the February coup attempt when the local army commander put his tanks on the streets and proclaimed martial law.

Worries about devolution allegedly breaking up Spain's unity were one of the main themes used by those supporting the attempted coup.

Ban hits Spanish fishermen

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Jan 1

All Spanish fishing vessels which work in waters of the European Community were idle indefinitely today as a result of a ban on fishing until an agreement has been concluded with the Community for 1982.

Last Monday, the EEC advised Spain's diplomatic mission in Brussels that the matter of fishing licences was too technical to grant a temporary two-month extension on the basis of 1981 quotas. Spain had suggested this in order to keep the fishermen working while a 1982 agreement is being worked out.

At Spain's request the first meeting to work out an agreement was moved from mid-January to January 6, O.J. Monday. Government officials will meet here with representatives of the Spanish deep-sea and coastal fleets which use European Community waters.

Despite these complications, Señor Miquel Aldasoro, Spain's Fisheries Under-Secretary, seemed confident. In a newspaper interview yesterday, he said: "Hopefully on January 6 we will be able to find some formula to allow our fresh-fish fleet to resume its activities in EEC waters."

Now you've resolved to

give up smoking,
spend less time at the nineteenth hole,
go for long walks with the dog regardless of the weather,
brush the dust off your chest-expanders,
take up tennis, swimming and, god help you, squash.
enter the London Marathon,
listen politely when the neighbours drop in,
try not to shout at the children - even when they use the
plant-sprayer as a water pistol,
spend less time ogling the television and more time
washing the dishes,
(possibly invest in a dish-washer),
shun the Sweet Trolley at one lunch in every three,
and visit the mother-in-law every other Tuesday,
console yourself...

There's one thing
you'll still be able to indulge in every weekend.

THE SUNDAY TIMES
weekly review
business news

THE SUNDAY TIMES
All the best for 1982.

Inflation left 2.6m disabled worse off

By Pat Healey, Social Services Correspondent

The International Year for Disabled People has ended but its influence lives on. A national council chaired by Lord Snowdon has been established to carry on the work begun during the year. Lord Snowdon will be one of the main speakers at a Blackpool conference at the end of this month to assess the year. In many parts of Britain associations of disabled people have been formed from local groups started because of the international year.

The year's supporters claim that it has met one of its main objectives in Britain by making more people aware of the basic abilities of most disabled people and presenting them as real human beings.

But since a survey disclosed that 50 per cent of the people interviewed knew a disabled person, the question is begged of who precisely the remaining minority are. Can they, for example, be the administrators and policy makers whose decisions make such an impact on the lives of disabled people?

When MPs debated the impact of the year in July, adverse criticism from Conservative backbenchers of the public sector's role in helping disabled people put ministers on the defensive. Mr Hugh Rossi, Minister for Social Security with responsibility for disabled people, admitted that the criticism was legitimate and said that much more needed to be done.

There were real gaps in provision for disabled people, he said, but some progress was being made, albeit at a slower pace than he wanted. According to *Disability in Britain*, published in November, that slow pace has left about 2,600,000 disabled people on or close to the poverty line, with a standard of living actually falling in the international year because their benefits were not increased in line with inflation.

Some have suffered from cuts in local authority social services which provide meals on wheels, home help, telephones and home adaptations that can make the difference between living independently at home and total dependency in a residential home.

There have been some advances during the year. The blind person's tax allowance was raised to £360 a year in the Budget, although it is claimed by only 19 per cent of registered blind people.

The mobility allowance was raised by 14 per cent, more than the inflation level, but its effect was offset by the increase in petrol prices and the fact that the allowance is taxed.

Some relief on VAT for charities was also given in the Budget, which certainly helped those giving help to disabled people. But the £6,000 the Spastics Society saved through that relief only helped to offset an extra £30,000 the petrol tax increase cost it during the year.

With belated help from the Government, the Bill introduced by Mr Dafydd Wigley, Plaid Cymru MP for Caernarfon, to improve the access provisions of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, 1970, finally made the statute book.

Clark tipped to replace Allen in White House post

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Jan 1

Mr William Clark, the Deputy Secretary of State, is being tipped to take over from Mr Richard Allen as President Reagan's National Security Adviser. If he does, his powers will be increased and his role will be similar to that of past security advisers such as Dr Henry Kissinger and Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski.

Mr Allen is still on administrative leave of absence after controversy caused by his acceptance of \$1,000 (about £500) for helping to arrange an interview with Mrs Nancy Reagan for a Japanese magazine.

Although the Justice Department has cleared Mr Allen of any wrongdoing and also alleged irregularities in his past business dealings, the White House has not yet completed its review into his conduct.

According to informed sources the move to replace Mr Allen by Mr Clark and to upgrade the role of National Security Adviser has been motivated by the notoriety surrounding Mr Allen, but also by a consensus within the White House that the national security apparatus has not worked well during the first year of the Reagan Administration.

Assad will visit Iran in peace move

From Tewfik Mishlawi, Beirut, Jan 1

President Hafez al-Assad of Syria has accepted an invitation to visit Iran, according to the official Iranian news agency today, but there was no official Syrian confirmation.

The visit would be part of an Arab drive to bring about an early settlement of the 15-month-old war between Iraq and Iran, and to close Arab ranks against Israel.

The invitation from President Ali Khamenei of Iran was reported to have been relayed by Mr Ali Akbar Yelayati, the Foreign Minister of Iran, now visiting Damascus. Syrian officials did not say when the Syrian leader might go to Tehran. President Assad recently concluded a tour of Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states.

Meanwhile, as part of an Arab drive to settle regional disputes, Saudi Arabia and Libya today agreed to resume normal diplomatic relations, which the Saudis had broken off more than a year ago after Libya's criticism of Saudi Arabia for borrowing four American A-7F fighter jets after the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war.

Reports from Amman said that negotiations were being made to reestablish normal diplomatic relations between Iraq and Libya. The Iraqi Embassy in Tripoli and the Libyan Embassy in Baghdad are expected to reopen in the next week or two.

Arab efforts to end the Gulf war may prove difficult, but many Arabs believe there can be no strong front against Israel while disputes continue and while Iraq is bogged down in an indefinite war with Iran.

Air controllers' leader quits

From Michael Hamlyn, New York, Jan 1

The leader of the striking and dismissed air traffic controllers resigned yesterday in the hope that his departure would ease the reinstatement of his members. A spokesman for the Reagan Administration said it would do so.

Mr Robert Poll, who took 11,500 controllers out on strike in August, providing the Government with its first trial of strength with organized labour, said: "I have always stated that if I believed I was an impediment to a solution of the strike, I would step aside."

I now believe that time has come."

He added: "I hope that my resignation is a signal to take the strike off the back burner. I am the symbol of the strike, and there is no reason to believe that Mr Poll, whose union members were among the best paid in the country, said he would leave at the end of next week. His deputy, Mr Robert Meyer, also resigned.

Mr Larry Speakes, the President's spokesman, said that Mr Reagan had no intention of relenting, although he

S AFRICANS CAPTURE GUERRILLAS

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, Jan 1

Two black guerrillas have been captured and a large cache of arms and explosives discovered near Pretoria in a hunt that was launched after a Boxing Day attack on a police station.

Security police are on the trail of three other men they say were trained as guerrillas in Angola, Russia and East Germany.

General F. L. C. Engels, acting Police Commissioner, announced on New Year's Eve that the capture of two guerrillas on December 28 led police to an underground arms cache near Hammanskraal, less than 20 miles from Pretoria, in the Bophuthatane African homeland.

The arms seized included communistic rocket launchers, AK47 assault rifles, plastic explosives, magazines and ammunition.

There was a sharp rise in the number of guerrilla attacks in South Africa last year with areas of activity.

Police stations and army barracks were the principal targets while electricity substations and railway junctions were repeatedly blown up.

New year messages Uganda frees detainees in reconciliation move

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi, Jan 1

President Milton Obote of Uganda today ordered the release of over 30 detainees, mostly members of opposition political parties arrested after an outbreak of guerrilla activity against his Government early last year.

In a new year message, he said he was exercising his prerogative of mercy in a spirit of reconciliation for 1982, and called on all Ugandans to join with his Uganda People's Congress to rebuild the country.

The 30 were stated to be the first batch to be freed, and the announcement did not indicate what the final total would be.

Mr Obote said the Government will in future adopt only policies approved by the ruling Zanu (PF) party.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, said last night in a new year address. He forecast an increasingly socialist programme, saying that the state should participate in all sectors of the economy, particularly agriculture, and in mining, manufacturing and commerce.

Mr Mugabe said the Government would continue to work for the welfare of the people of the Gambia and

Pentagon changes MX missile bases

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Jan 1

The Reagan Administration has announced another change of plan for the deployment of its new MX intercontinental ballistic missile. The Pentagon has announced that at least 40 of the 100 missiles intended for deployment by the end of the decade will be placed in the existing silos of the Minuteman missiles, which the MX is designed to supersede.

The Carter Administration originally planned to deploy 200 MX missiles in Utah and Nevada and to shuttle them between more than 4,000 launching points so as to prevent an enemy knowing where they were.

This plan was scrapped by the Reagan Administration last October. Instead the President announced that the first 36 missiles would be deployed in silos now occupied by nearly obsolete Titan missiles.

Various modes of deployment are to be considered over the next two years for the remaining 64 missiles.

The main reason why the missiles are now to be placed in Minuteman rather than Titan silos is because of the engineering problems involved. A senior Air Force officer told a briefing of journalists that geological formations around many of the Titan sites made them more difficult to protect against possible enemy attacks than was originally believed.

Another reason is cost. As all of the initial 40 MX missiles will be placed in the same Minuteman fields, the cost of deployment could be \$150m (£75m) less than the plan to use old Titan silos.

There was also a political factor. The proposal to place the MX in Titan sites in Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri was provoking almost as much opposition in those states as the Carter "race track" plan had created in Utah and Nevada.

Although at present there are six Minuteman fields, situated in five different states, only one of them will be used for MX. A decision will be made in the spring which of the six "fields" would be used.

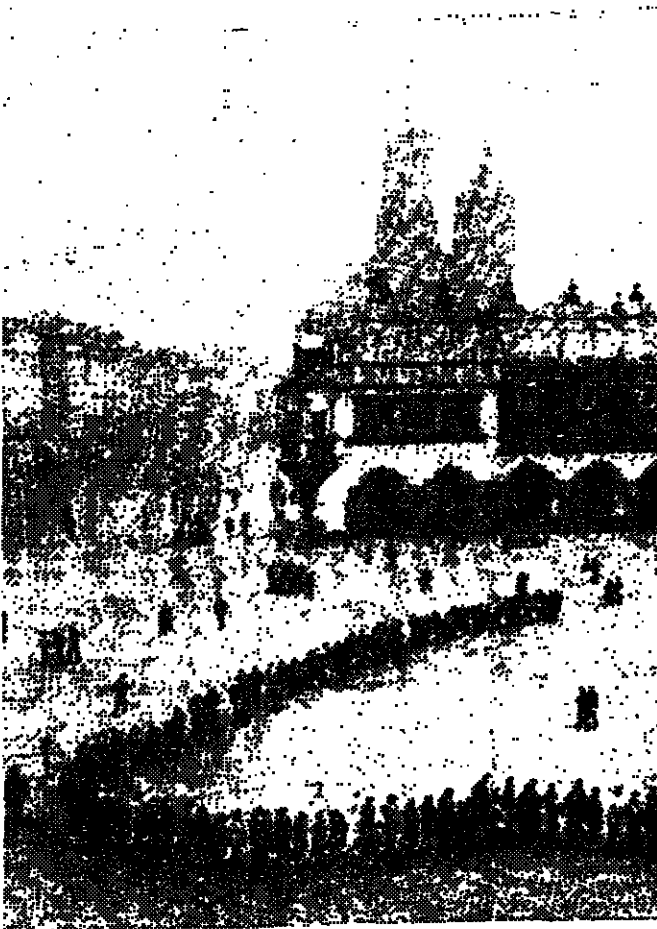
MARCOS SON-IN-LAW KIDNAPPED

Manila, Jan 1.—An amateur sportsman, who secretly married the eldest daughter of President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines in the United States has been kidnapped, the Government said today.

A statement said that Mr Tomas Manotoc, aged 32, an amateur golfer and coach, was now "in the hands of kidnappers who are either subversive or criminal elements."

Mr Marcos has appealed to foreign journalists to avoid publicity on the story since it might endanger Mr Manotoc's life. Mr Manotoc disappeared late on Tuesday after he had dined with his wife at a suburban restaurant.

A report earlier today on the kidnapping mentioned only that Mr Manotoc had married the daughter of a ranking Philippine government official. Although Philippine officials implicitly confirmed the wedding, they said it was not legal since Mr Manotoc was already married.—APF.



Food for thought: Poles queuing patiently for a little food sold at a solitary stall in an historic square of Cracow.

Poland: A bitter start to 1982

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 1 (censored)

Poland enters the new year having to swallow the bitter medicine of economic reform. Higher supply charges for raw materials, fuel and transport go into effect today, the initial steps in changes that are intended to reduce subsidy, match supply with demand and introduce greater competitiveness into the economy.

Earlier attempts to raise prices—especially food prices—have met with popular opposition. This time, however, food prices will not, according to the official media, be affected, though state enterprises are free to pass on to customers the effects of higher costs on other goods.

Mr Zdzislaw Krasinski, chairman of the State Prices Commission, has made clear that the most sensitive increases—on food, petrol, electricity and rent—would be preceded by a "public discussion" before being imposed later in the year.

For the past few months, Solidarity, the free trade union organization, has been insisting that compensation—effectively higher wages—be granted to balance out the effects of

Mitterrand urges escape from Yalta spirit

From Jonathan Fenby, Paris, Jan 1

President Mitterrand has called for the rejection of the East-West division of Europe which he blamed for the military takeover in Poland.

In a new year radio and television address to his nation, he also warned his countrymen of the danger of confusing a desire for change in Europe with the current realities obtaining on the Continent.

Mitterrand said the Polish drama had to be seen in the context of a contradiction affecting Europe. While a balance of power between the United States and the Soviet Union was necessary for peace, "it is dangerous what the two powers of which I am speaking should coexist on the basis of a division of Europe which will soon date back 40 years", he said.

Any escape from the division of the Continent enshrined in the 1945 Yalta agreement would be good, the President said, adding "On condition of never confusing the desire we have to do this with the reality of today. The Polish drama falls within this contradiction", he said.

"There is no greater solidarity than that which unites us with the Polish people. Let us prove it by refusing the system which oppresses them, the domination which it breeds, the denial of their rights, their freedoms, their just aspirations to live independently, and let us know how to measure the slow ways of history."

Turning to French domestic matters, Mitterrand renewed his administration's call for a national effort to cut unemployment and inflation in 1982.

On the European Community front, he said a key objective for France in 1982 would be to give the EEC political will, something which Paris sees as necessary both in the EEC's external relations and to promote joint social and economic policies.

His address dealing with the passing of Poland, the most striking part of Mitterrand's first new year address to the country. They provided echoes of General de Gaulle, both in his denunciation of the post-war division of Europe, and in Mitterrand's earlier insistence on the need for a strong national defence policy.

While the address represented a further hardening of France's moral attitude towards the Polish military regime, there was no indication today that concrete steps would follow. The Prime Minister's office said there was no intention of following the United States example in imposing economic sanctions on the Soviet Union.

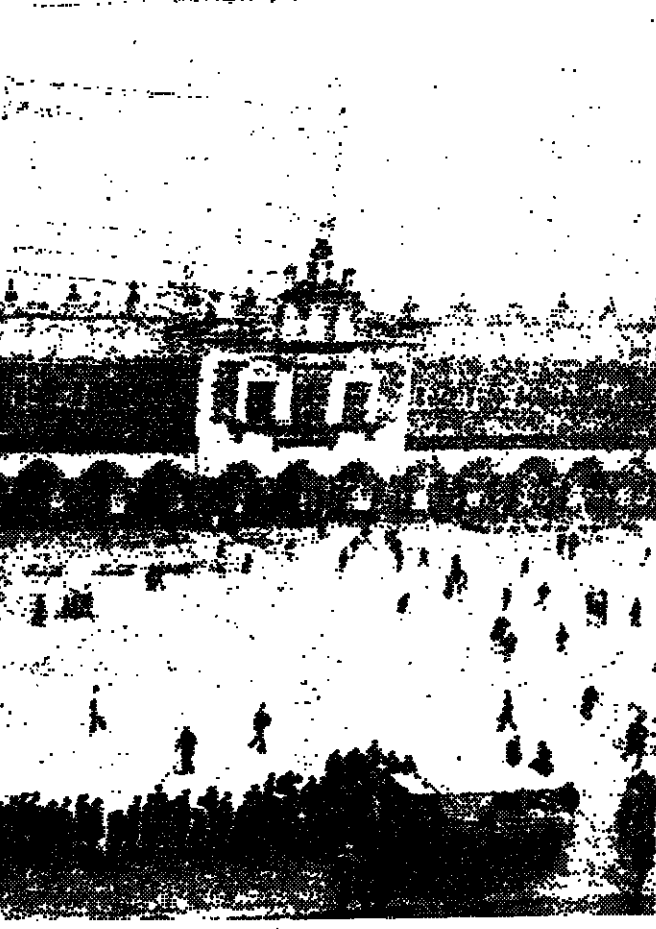
Mr Michal Gencik, which won big orders last month to supply equipment for the Soviet gas pipeline to West Europe, appear to have no worries about the contracts being affected. Indeed, it has been noted in the French capital that some of the commercial agreements were concluded in the days immediately after the military takeover.

Domestically, Mitterrand's analysis of the reasons underlying the Polish crisis are likely to put a fresh strain on relations between the Socialists and the minority Government partners especially in the Communist party which insist that the crisis should be seen as an internal affair of Poland.

There has been increasing signs of discontent within Communist ranks at the party's approach to Poland but the party's policy has not wavered from an insistence that the military move was necessary to avoid a bloodbath.

This has given French opposition parties a stock of ammunition to fire at the Government. Conservative and neo-Gaullist politicians have been busy attacking the Socialists for working with the Communists in the Government, while denouncing events in Poland.

Mr Michel Pinton, a leader of the Giscardian UDF party, has called for an opposition boycott of the four Communist members of the Government if they are not dismissed.



Food for thought: Poles queuing patiently for a little food sold at a solitary stall in an historic square of Cracow.

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Thatcher promises united West

By Our Foreign Staff

are in a free democratic world, the United States is a free democratic country, and the whole of Russian tactics is to try to divide us.

"They must never succeed. What Poland wants, and Russia knows it, is peace with freedom. Poland wants the very freedom which we have and which we do not value enough. And those countries which have peace with freedom must stand together and we will stand together."

This is also the message which Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, has been trying to get across since martial law was introduced in Poland nearly three weeks ago.

The British view of the Polish crisis is that events could not have taken place without the knowledge and consent of the Soviet Union. This standpoint is also shared by the French and Italians among the European allies.

But Lord Carrington has also made it clear that the West Europeans had to consider very carefully whether military or economic sanctions

Pope thanks Solidarity supporters

The text of the Pope's homily in St Peter's is as follows:

I see here in the piazza of St Peter's so many placards saying Solidarity. Thanks, many thanks, for these expressions of solidarity with Solidarity. This is the expression of a great effort which working men have made in my country to ensure the true dignity of the worker.

In fact, workers have the right to set up autonomous trade unions whose role is to guard their social, family and individual rights.

The church has always taught such a doctrine and especially in the times from *Rerum Novarum* up until *Laborem Exercens* the Pope's recent encyclical updating church teaching on the role of labour in society as an elementary interpretation of justice and social peace.

The word Solidarity which one sees on so many banners, shows us the endeavour which aims for such justice and such a peace. Therefore it is widely recognized and greeted with respect all over the world. Solidarity belongs to the actual patrimony of the working men of my country, and I would say of other nations.

A crisis over Poland also has the heritage of history and a 1,000-year-old place in the heart of the Madonna at Jasna Gora.

And I deposit it in the treasury of experience of workers throughout the world: It is a part of the common good of justice and peace.

Shop stewards representing dockers at Hull have rejected a plea from the Polish community in Britain to block Soviet and East German ships in protest against martial law

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Big cut in air fares to Australia

Tourist air fares to Australia will be cut by nearly half in the spring. Return flights are to be offered by British Airways and Qantas for £380 for a limited period. Passengers must travel to Australia between March 15 and April 30 and return between April 1 and June 30.

The cuts, which are subject to Government approval, save up to £385 on one-month Super Apex tickets and up to £397 on excursion fares which allow passengers to stop off on the way.

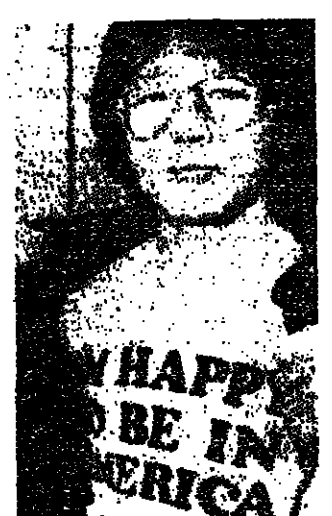
A senior British Airways official said: "This special sale brings Australia within reach of the man in the street."

Ex-CIA chief avoids lawsuit

Washington.—Mr William Colby, the former Central Intelligence Agency Director, has agreed to pay \$10,000 (£5,200) to avoid being sued for breaching his secrecy obligation. The Justice Department announced.

Mr Colby, in accordance with his secrecy agreement with the CIA, submitted the manuscript of his memoirs in advance for clearance. The CIA requested a number of changes and deletions, which Mr Colby made for the English-language edition. Meanwhile, his publishers had sent the uncorrected manuscript to a French publisher, who published it.

Boy 'prefers death to Russia'



Chicago.—Walter Polowchak, aged 14, (above) a Soviet boy who had been given permission to live in America, would prefer to die rather than go back to his parents in the Soviet Union and he will not let anyone force him to return. His 18-year-old sister said.

Walter ran away from his parents in Chicago when they were visiting America in 1980 and refused to return home with them last summer.

Julian Kulas, one of his lawyers, has said he plans to ensure that the boy is able to stay in the United States.

\$2m for hotel disaster victim

New York.—Mr Mark Williams, aged 34, a lawyer from Kansas City whose legs were crushed when the decorative walkways of the Hyatt Regency hotel there collapsed, has agreed to accept a settlement of \$2.2m (£1m). It is the largest injury settlement so far made between lawyers for the hotel and the people killed or maimed in the accident.

New ruling body for Bangladesh

Dacca.—President Abdus Sattar of Bangladesh has set up a National Security Council with himself in charge to explore how the armed forces can contribute to the country's development.

The official Bangladeshi news agency quoted a presidential adviser as saying that the council would replace the existing National Defence Council.

BBC end daily Italian and Spanish services

Final transmissions in the BBC's daily services in Italian and Spanish for Europe were put out on New Year's Eve, ending a direct radio link dating back more than 40 years (Kenneth Gosling writes).

The cuts were made as the result of a Government decision.

Three killed in fireworks mishap

Rome.—Three people were killed in the southern Italian town of Reggio Calabria, when a group of new year party-goers went to check on a home-made firework which had not exploded after lighting. It exploded, setting off other fireworks as they approached, killing them instantly.

1,833rd murder

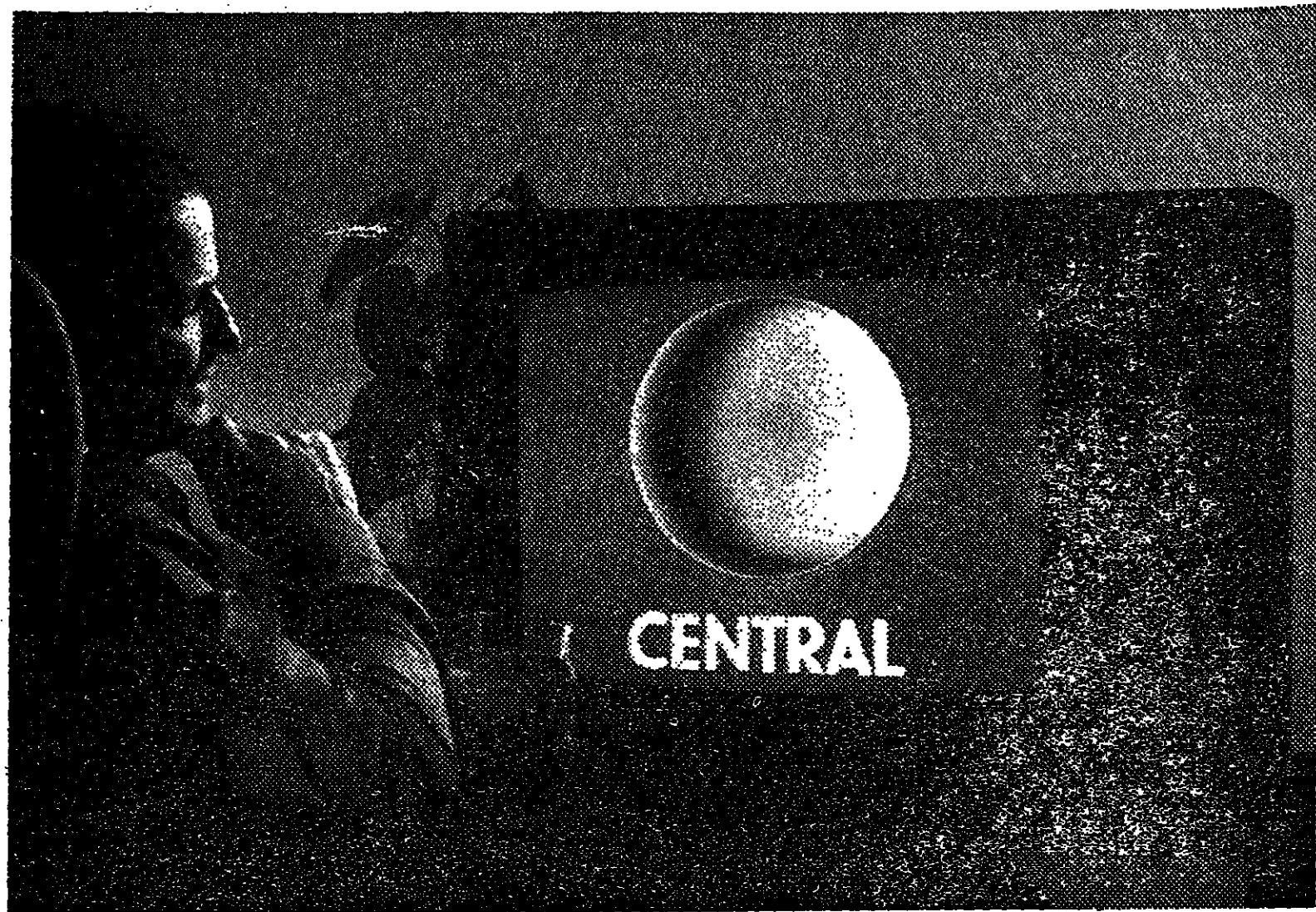
New York.—Alfred Green, who was 87, was carrying his groceries through the lobby of his block of flats in Brooklyn late on New Year's Eve when he became the last murder victim of the year. Police said he was the 1,833rd person to be murdered in New York City.

UN handover

New York.—Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar of Peru has taken over as United Nations Secretary General in succession to Mr Kurt Waldheim of Austria, who held the post for the past 10 years.

هكذا من الأصل

ADVERTISEMENT



New TV station reveals 'White Globe' is hoax seen all over central England last night

The mysterious 'white globe' which was reported as appearing all over central England last week has transpired to be a hoax. Central, the new Independent Television station serving the east and west areas of central England, went on air for the first time yesterday with the announcement that the 'white globe' is their identification symbol.

The news came simultaneously from their studios in Nottingham and Birmingham. The Nottingham based production centre is claimed to be the most up-to-date in the country. It uses ENG, the electronic news gathering system, which brought the 'white globe' revelation to the viewers. The system cuts down pro-

cessing time, so news gets out faster; sometimes, as it occurs. Central will be a major contributor to the independent television network, broadcasting its programmes to the whole country. The film director, Antony Thomas, has just completed his new documentary called "The Most Dangerous Man in the World".

"Muck and Brass" is a six part drama series about town hall corruption. It stars Mel Smith as Tom Craig, property developer and entrepreneur. Last night, a Central spokesman said, "We want to make television that won't allow people to say there's nothing on the box tonight. We intend to provide the viewer with a challenge".

TV PERSONALITY GOES "OVER THE TOP"

Chris Tarrant who became well-known for his appearances on the children's television programme "Tiswas", is on Central with his new adult programme OTT. Asked what his aims were, he replied: "To fill the national lack of custard pies". It's transmitted tonight at 11 p.m. across the network.

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— Señor Javier ellar of Peru has as United Nations neral in succession rr Waldheim of held the post for years.

How to avoid another Aberfan at Mousehole

Two days before Christmas Jack Pender, a member of the Penlee lifeboat disaster fund committee, was given an unhappy task: to visit each of the bereaved families, comforted with their grief, and tell them that the fund — whose staggering growth must have provided more than a scintilla of solace — was not all coming from the charity law. They would get only enough for their reasonable needs, according to charity law concepts. These allow relief from material distress, but not enrichment. Furthermore, they were told, each of them would have to make a case for a hand-out. The lifeboatmen, reflecting the feelings of the community as a whole, went on a limited strike.

The public must wonder how they are still stuck with charity laws which add made-to-natural disasters. The Gillingham bus tragedy (in which the courts, years later, ordered the donations to be returned), Aberfan (where the dispute that is only a minor recrimination has hardly died down) and now Penlee constitute a roll-call of relief dishonour.

In fact, there are two Penlee distress funds. One, working more at the local level, the Aberfan fund has collected more than £250,000. Its organizers have taken a bold, simple line. They are acting, as Mr Beresford Evans, the local solicitor advising them, puts it, "merely as a bowl for eight named beneficiaries (three parents and five widows). As such, they have simply taken in with one hand and funnelled straight out with the other, keeping nothing back."

The other fund, set up by the Penwith district council, has been the main channel for national donations, and so far well over £1m has been received. It was as representative of this fund that Jack Pender made his unwelcome visits. Lyn Rowland, the Mousehole solicitor advising the fund, had in turn taken advice from counsel in London who insisted that the unhappy tidings about the constraints of charity law be circulated and published.

If their barrister is right, the problem of what to do with the massive Penwith fund has been inadvertently exacerbated by the direct tunnelling by the smaller fund to the eight beneficiaries of almost £40,000 each. This must have gone a considerable way already to meeting their "reasonable needs".

So the main fund faces a dilemma. Does it register with the charity commissioners as a charity (which would be normal), or choose a diametrically opposed course of claiming non-charitable status? The tax advantages of charitable status usually rule out the latter, and it seems that Penwith's London adviser may have proceeded on the

basis that the capital transfer tax consequences of being non-charitable would be crippling — devouring more than half the fund as it was paid out.

In fact, it now seems that this may not be the case. For an obscure provision in the fifth schedule to the 1975 Finance Act covers just such situations as this where a multiplicity of people make separate contributions to a single trust fund. Only individual contributions over £50,000 would attract capital transfer tax when the fund is paid out and only individual contributions over £3,000 will (on worst assumptions) involve tax on the part of the givers.

The only practical tax disadvantage of the non-charitable trust is, therefore, that tax will have to be paid by the trustees on income deriving from the fund before it is distributed, but since they intend to wind it up before the end of the year, that is only a minor irritant.

That being so, everything seems to point in favour of both funds claiming non-charitable status, since they would then be free from any charity law constraints on the money they can give to the families, and also be in more or less the same no-tax position as if they were charities.

Ironically, the die has already been cast for both of them on this question of legal status. Because neither yet has a fully-fledged legal constitution, the matter will be decided according, firstly, on the basis on which funds were solicited from the public, and secondly, on the requirements of charity law generally.

All those involved with both funds are adamant that it was not the case, as perfectly understood that the money was being collected for the direct and exclusive benefit of the families and dependents — not for RNLI funds, nor for Mousehole relief purposes, or whatever else. That should weigh heavily with the charity commissioners next week.

Secondly, there is the question of whether or not the small number of people directly involved (eight families comprising 20 people), constitute sufficiently large a group to satisfy the public interest test, which must be met by charities.

Ironically, this looks as if it is one of those rare cases where all concerned will be seeking to stay outside the clutches of our charity laws.

What is clear is that the unbearable pain and suffering which has been caused in this, as in other recent, disasters by arcane considerations of charity and tax law should be banished to the future by a new Disaster Relief Act that would clarify and simplify the law.

Andrew Phillips

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Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings: another blitz on corruption but no plan yet for economic recovery

Will Jerry Rawlings succeed the second time round?

by Colin Legum

Little more than two years after abandoning power, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings has carried out the threat he made to Ghana's newly elected Parliament in October 1980 that his Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) would take over again if the politicians once more failed the people and put their own interests before those of the nation.

It was on June 4 1980 that Rawlings, the 32-year-old son of a Scottish farmer and a Ghanaian mother of the Ewe tribe, led a coup by junior army officers and rank and file soldiers to deal with the scandal of corruption among the senior officers and others, to retrieve the army's reputation and to set Ghana back on the road to economic recovery.

In the four months that it held power the AFRC executed eight generals and other senior officers (including three former heads of state); sentenced almost 300 army officers, businessmen and civil servants to prison terms of up to 80 years and flooded the market with "mammies" in public for profiteering.

Like Robespierre, Rawlings believed in the value of swift justice rather than in proper court procedures, but while accepting the need for a measure of bloodletting as a salutary lesson to others, he was unwilling to give in to the demands, especially of the ordinary soldiers and many civilians, for wholesale bloodletting; at the time this produced strong resentment in the lower ranks of the army.

He is opposed to any talk of ideology, and this led to a split with some of his closest colleagues in the AFRC whom he accused of being "communist". Rawlings is

essentially a populist who believes in parliamentary democracy and "peaceful revolution".

But two years of democratic rule has left Ghana as badly off as ever. Its principal foreign exchange earner, cocoa, was down to its 1957 level of production in the first two thirds of the 1981 season, with more than 150,000 tonnes of the crop lying unshipped because of a breakdown of internal transport.

The familiar old charges of corruption have dominated recent parliamentary debates, while the ruling People's National Party has become hopelessly divided. Reflecting feelings about the country's malaise, Dr F. W. A. Akuffo, the President of the African Youth Command, recently complained that "Ghanaian society is becoming more and more rotten because no one is able to survive without breaking the law".

It was clearly a situation ripe for another takeover by Rawlings and his supporters, who are grouped together in a variety of political movements. The comparative ease of the latest coup suggests that Rawlings has lost little of his charismatic popularity among the army's lower ranks.

Rawlings was dismissed from the armed services when he refused to go abroad to study after President Hilla Limann came to office, but he has remained a thorn in the government's side. On a number of occasions it has accused him of plotting, but he was too popular a figure for President Limann to risk arresting him. However, his known supporters constantly complained of being harassed by security agents.

Desperately frustrated by being denied the opportunity to fly, he spent most of his days driving around in his car, swimming several hours a day in the sea and meeting friends in the evenings in a bar near his comfortable but unostentatious flat on the outskirts of the capital. Like Castro, he loves giving interviews — and, like him, he is entirely unpredictable.

Recently, having promised to give an interview to a Nigerian woman journalist, he arrived at her hotel at midnight in a frogman's outfit and took her for a swim in the sea before agreeing to answer her questions.

His talk is racy. "I keep harping on Franz Fanon's thing on emasculation. We niggers have been emasculated. Governments all over the place are using the ignorance of the masses to keep them down and keep them in line. This slave and slave-master relationship has to be broken."

He complains that those who want to change this relationship are invariably accused of promoting instability, "but it's the slave-master who will call our situation instability".

While Rawlings has spoken a great deal about the need for an "agricultural revolution", he has so far failed to produce a programme of action. However, he can be relied on once again to play the role of Robespierre in pursuing those accused of corruption and of "robbing the poor". One immediate question is whether he can succeed in regenerating Ghana's economy without upsetting the country's foreign supporters.

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Measure for Measure, mixing Shakespeare with traditional Chinese theatre

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Comments by foreign guests who saw the play in Beijing may indicate what the future has in store for them. Sir Kenneth Cork, Governor of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, said: "She (Deyang) is a true Juliet and Dobuji, a real Romeo! This is one of the best combinations of young actor and actress I have seen playing Romeo and Juliet abroad." Priscilla Oaks, an American Shakespeare scholar, said: "I have seen performances of this play by ten famous international companies, and this is one of the best."

Chen Chun Yeh

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Miles Kingston's 1982 diary... for those who can't wait

January

Ken Livingstone devises a new scheme for London Transport. All bus and tube tickets are to cost £1 each, but every traveller will receive a refund of 80p at journey's end.

Widespread sunny weather brings chaos to Britain's roads and railways, which are jammed solid with gritters, snow-clearers, piles of sand and salt, etc.

A psychiatrist diagnoses Ronald Reagan's conduct as "revenge-neurosis". Having been filled full of bullets last year, he is now seeking an enemy to hit back at. "Technically," says the doctor, "we call this being as mad as hell and spoiling for a fight. Normally there is no cause for alarm. But normally the patient is not President."

After a merger, a new bank is formed called Nat Lloyd. Mrs Thatcher says the tunnel of recession is becoming out.

Over clips 00067 of a second off Coe's mile record.

February

Geoffrey Boycott achieves the record of having run out more batsmen than any other Test cricketer. He is sacked by Yorkshire.

Nat Lloyd announces that unless Poland can pay the overdraft back, someone will go bankrupt, preferably not Nat Lloyd.

Mrs Thatcher declares she can see light at the end of the bottom.

The Pope declares that not only is there no sex after death, there is also no washing up, problems with kindergartens or secret assignments with secretaries.

Ronald Reagan imposes economic sanctions on the French for their NATO policies.

Alternative comedian, fearless untagable Alexei Sayle, is given his own prime time TV show.

Miss Piggy makes takeover bid for the ailing Grade empire.

March

Coe clips 43 centimetres off Ovett's 1,500 metres record.

Ken Livingstone's new scheme for LT is rejected by the House of Lords. He declares that he is a member of the public donates millions of pounds.

After a merger, a new bank is formed called Natbarclloyd. It calls on Poland to pay up or else.

Geoff Boycott becomes the first batsman to cheat 1,000 pieces of gum in an inning. He is sacked again by Yorkshire.

Mrs Thatcher says she can see a bottom at the end of the tunnel.

Lord Grade is ousted by Miss Piggy. The new mistress of the Grade empire is quoted as saying: "Après moi, moi".

Ronald Reagan imposes sanctions on the Democratic Party for voting against him.

April

The Times is closed for a month after a dispute over who should take the Editor's free morning copy of the paper. No news is recorded by The Times; ergo, nothing happens in April. In late April the Editor agrees to buy his own copy.

May

Ovett clips £8,000 off Coe's record.

Ken Livingstone's scheme for turning LT into a charity is rejected in a curt postcard from Lord Denning. He devises a new scheme for listing London Transport as a historical monument and awards it enough support to cut fares dramatically.

Poland refuses to pay up. Its debt is estimated at about 4 Natbarclloydlillions. (A Natbarclloydlion is the amount of money required to bankrupt Natbarclloyd).

Iconoclastic, anarchic comedian Alexei Sayle presents a series of tributes to Victorian music hall stars.

Victor Lownes, ex-Playboy chief, is appointed new chief of Scotland Yard. When asked what his attitude to bribery, corruption and bending of the odds will be, he answers: "I shall adhere faithfully to the age-old tradition of the British police", and winks broadly.

Brideshead Revisited opens in the West End.

The Pope slips quietly in and out of Britain. He says later: "Of course, it was a disappointment that nobody turned out to see me, but some you win, some you lose. I imagine that most people preferred to see me on TV. Luckily, there will be no TV after death."

June

Natbarclloyd takes over Poland. A statement says: "Poland is now to all intents a branch of Natbarclloyd. It

will be open every day from 9.30 to 3.30 except weekends."

The Saudi royal family is assassinated, in a sudden brutal assault lasting five days.

Israel vacates Sinai, but takes Sinai with her. When Egyptian forces arrive, they find nothing there but sand.

Mrs Thatcher says there is definitely no sex at the end of the tunnel.

Despite Ken Livingstone's preservation order on London Transport, the system is pulled down overnight. "It was an accident," claims Lord Victor Matthews. Ken Livingstone announces a new plan to turn London Transport into a happening, and to get Arts Council support.

The Grade Show, a new children's programme, is a smash hit. Miss Piggy announces she has sold the programme, featuring lovable but irascible Lew, to 48 nations. "Le deluge, c'est moi", she adds.

July

Princess Diana has a baby. No other news is printed.

August

Natbarclloyd announces trading difficulties with Poland. Enormous queues form outside every Polish branch of Natbarclloyd every morning, and all their chained ballpoint pens have disappeared already. The bank is seriously thinking of asking the Russians to step in, if they could get past the queues.

Sir Alexei Sayle (the no-compromise, loveable old-style comedian honoured in the Queen's Birthday List) is nominated as the compere for the Royal Variety Show.

The Guardian Prize for a worthy novel written by an Indian about post-colonial crisis in a stress situation is awarded to Geoffrey Boycott's *Appealing Against the Monsoon*. It is banned in Yorkshire.

The W. H. Smith Prize for Soft Furnishing or Gift Item is awarded to the Papal Cube.

September

SDP stage adult, moderate riot

London Transport runs into difficulties after their Arts Council grant is withdrawn.

September

Commissioner Victor Lownes announces the opening of a country-wide chain of Police Clubs, at which members of the public can have a law-abiding and peaceful evening out, getting rid of their money. "It is vitally important that the public should establish their rapport with the police", says Lownes. "To this end they will be served by policemen wearing the minimum of costume, or calling them, as we shall be

A British space satellite is launched to relay live broadcasting of the Royal Christmas, at which the new heir to the Throne is named Edward Elizabeth George Louise Mary Herbert Polo Windsor Saffari Park.

A Social Democrat rally goes on the rampage through the streets of Croydon, shaking heads disapprovingly at bystanders, making turning noises and writing DIRT on the backs of cars in the dust. It is greeted in the first adult, moderate riot in British history.

In a master-stroke, Ken Livingstone appoints Lord Denning head of London Transport.

October

At a stormy shareholders' meeting, Natbarclloyd announces that they intend to close down Poland altogether. A major sensation is caused when Miss Piggy turns out to be the major shareholder in Natbarclloyd, and therefore owner of Poland, which gives her a controlling interest in Pope Jean-Paul II. "He is my kind of Pope", she confesses. "Not many people realize that he is a divine dancer."

Mrs Thatcher reaffirms that Britain is on course and will be tunnelling out any moment.

The first sex scandal in the SDP fizzles out when the evidence proves to be nothing except photographs of the Alliance leaders embracing each other. Shirley states firmly that there is almost certainly no sex after the Social Democrat parties.

Mr Brezhnev dies.

November

Mr Reagan denies responsibility. The leadership struggle in Russia is resolved by the discovery of a large amount of taped messages left behind by Mr Brezhnev, containing instructions on the running of the USSR.

The Pope concedes that there may be statesmanship after death.

England start their 1986 World Cup build-up. Mr Greenwood says: "I am putting my trust in the qualities which have always distinguished British football." An experimental squad is beaten 3-1 in a friendly against Albania.

The leader of Russia, the late Leonid Brezhnev, responds angrily to the

December

An assassination attempt is made on Miss Piggy (who now controls Natbarclloyd, the Pope, Poland, Laker Airways and Mr Brezhnev's recordings) and she is hit by three bullets. The next day, unharmed, she says: "This shows, je pense, the advantage of having leaders made out of pink muslin."

A sudden fall of snow brings Lord Denning to a complete standstill.

At the end of a confused year, Mrs Thatcher expresses cautious optimism for the future, though she warns that she can see Shirley Williams at the end of the tunnel.

In a bloodless coup, the late Mr Brezhnev is replaced as leader of the USSR by a recording of the Red Army Choir.

Christmas sales start this year on December 18. Shopkeepers say it has not been a good Christmas.

Mrs Thatcher says she can see 1983 at the end of 1982. "Truste moi", she adds.

The United Nations call on Israel to replace the Sinai Peninsula where they found it. Menachem Begin replies that it is the sacred right of the Israelis to shift the Middle East around as they see fit. To make his point, he drops part of the Golan Heights on Syria.

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A hit, a palpable hit in China

In the past 12 months four Shakespeare plays have been produced in China and Tibet. The Lhasa production — of *Romeo and Juliet* — was by the newly formed Tibetan Modern Drama Troupe, a group of young Tibetan actors recently graduated from the Shanghai Drama Institute. The other plays were *The Merchant of Venice*, *Macbeth* and *Measure for Measure*.

For the Chinese, Shakespeare was known in the first decade of this century not as a playwright but as a story teller. The work then translated into Chinese and attributed to him was actually a group of his plays written by Charles Lamb and his sister Mary. Strange to say, the translator Lin Shu (1852-1924), a classical scholar, did not read English. A friend read him the stories, he took sketchy notes and supplemented them from his own imagination, turning out Chinese versions in the name of Shakespeare but in a style reminiscent of Tang Dynasty prose of the seventh to ninth centuries.

While the narratives were so exotic, the elegant language was to the taste of the literati. Soon even students took the Chinese "Shakespeare" as a model for their school composition. The practice might have been reprehensible, but at least made him known to millions.

It did not take long for people to realize that Shakespeare was a playwright of world importance and that his works should be played on the Chinese stage. But again there was an unmistakable Chinese flavour. To suit the taste of theatregoers, producers turned them into Chinese operas with fancy names. Thus *Romeo and Juliet* became a Peking opera under the title *Yan of Love*

and *Hamlet* appeared in Sichuan opera as *Taking the Wife of A Brother by Killing Him*. Both came off pretty well. When modern Chinese theatre in the European style was established in the late 1920s, Shakespeare was translated in its original form and was at last staged more or less as it might be in Britain. But systematic study of his works and stagecraft had to wait until after the Communist take-over in 1949.

In the early 1950s *Romeo and Juliet* was performed based on a text translated by the well-known playwright Cao Yu. The production was rather experimental and aroused great interest among actors and public alike. The Institute of Foreign Literature of the Chinese Academy of Sciences made Shakespeare a subject of special research. Publishing houses began putting out Shakespeare's works in competent translations that were within the financial reach of most readers. His plays were in popular demand.

Then came the Cultural Revolution of the mid-1960s. Shakespeare was banned as bourgeois, along with nearly every other foreign writer — and many Chinese too. It was only three years ago, with the political thaw and revival of literary life, that his works were reissued and widely circulated.

It is under these circumstances that the interest in again staging Shakespeare's plays began to grow. The stagecraft of the Elizabethan period has been researched, television versions of English productions screened for reference and advice sought from British directors. Toby Robertson, for example, collaborated in the recent production of *Measure for Measure*.

So it is hardly surprising that four Shakespeare plays

should have appeared with success on the Chinese stage within a year. Audiences enjoyed them not as mere entertainment but as the accomplishments of theatrical art of a high order.

This is significant because it shows that after the isolation from the outside world imposed by the Gang of Four, the Chinese public is rediscovering the best of western culture. Big sales of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales in China are another indication of this trend.

In presenting foreign literature and art, a Chinese treatment is still evident. The production of *The Merchant of Venice* is a case in point. The emphasis was on Shylock's avarice, with the conflicts between Jews and Christians almost entirely overlooked. Antonio was portrayed as a prototype of the newly rising bourgeoisie

and Shylock as a typical specimen of primitive feudal usury. Shylock's greed, wickedness and stupidity were brought out in bold relief and money was condemned as symbolic of capitalist society.

Some critics said the interpretation did not do justice to the original. They maintained that society was responsible for Shylock's abhorrent traits because of the contempt, discrimination and humiliation imposed on the Jewish people at the time. Many theatregoers believed the production would have been much more colourful and lifelike had his complex characters been properly presented.

In *Measure for Measure* the directors returned to the practice of traditional Chinese theatre. The stage setting was simplified to the minimum with few props. There were no curtain-falls

Measure for Measure, mixing Shakespeare with traditional Chinese theatre

between scenes, so that time was saved for the actual performance. This is preferred by Chinese audiences who go to the theatre not for the story but for the acting, recitation and singing: "to hear a play", so to speak, not "to see a play".

The performance of *Romeo and Juliet* is important in that Shakespeare is the first foreign playwright to be staged in Tibet and is symbolic of China's adaptation of the best of world culture to enrich its own. The Tibetan production was a success acclaimed by all who saw it, even though it was acted by a group of sons of daughters of former serfs who had no previous contact with any Asian culture, still less with that of the West.

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Chen Chun Yeh

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All year: Tunnelling



March: "Après moi, moi"



February: Record buster



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NOW THAT THE WORST IS OVER

The economy enters 1982 showing clear signs that, as the Chancellor and the Prime Minister say, it is over the worst of the recession. The recession may have been needlessly deepened by the severity of the Government's policies over the past two years; but there have been real gains as well as costs attributable to those policies. Industry has become more efficient because it has to survive. Pay settlements over the past year have been more moderate than the Government's critics expected. Managers have been reminded that they have both a duty and a right to manage. The cuts in taxation introduced at the beginning of the Government's term of office have done something to restore incentives which had eroded over the years. There is something here on which to build.

Current prospects suggest that the economy will show only gradual improvement over the year ahead. National output is likely to rise by roughly 1 per cent. Unemployment is bound to rise further once allowance is made for the distorting impact of school leavers on the figures. Inflation will subside gradually as the year proceeds but will be brought down into single figures only with the greatest difficulty.

The Chancellor will come under increasing pressure from his own backbenchers for proof that we have moved into a definite recovery. He will be expected to encourage expansion without refuelling inflation. Some of the things he can do are negative. He can resist the easy option of

trying to buy popularity with large cuts in income tax in the spring and in 1983. As the last two years of the Labour government showed, voters have become wise about the worth of increases in living standards in the run up to an election — increases to be paid for later. He can avoid repeating the mistakes of his Budget in 1981, when he transferred to the private sector the cost of the Government's failure to control its own spending. Nor should the Budget again be dominated by obsession with the figures for public borrowing and the short-term growth of the money supply. One plain lesson from 1981 is that the economy is too complex to be controlled by one set of figures.

There is thus no case for a deflationary Budget in the coming spring, even if the Chancellor's borrowing projections show signs of being higher than he would like. Indeed, there is a strong case for some modest relaxation in ways which will help the economy to sustain its expansion in later years. That implies stimulation of investment and some reduction of the burden falling on industry as a direct or indirect consequence of government policies.

Investment has declined as a share of public spending. Cuts have been concentrated on the capital programmes where the immediate pain is less but the long term cost is great, and the Government has reduced investment in the state industries which it controls. Meanwhile manufacturing industry has been pushed into the front line of the

battle against inflation. Its competitiveness has been eroded by the rise in sterling. It also has to meet ever rising taxes and charges from a public sector which has done much less to bring its own costs under control. What industry needs now is some help to ensure that its efforts to bring down manning levels and costs are translated into growth. Sir Geoffrey ought to ease the industrial tax burden by cutting the national insurance surcharge, thus also giving an incentive to create more jobs. And he should correct the downward trend in productive public investment.

In the long run the health of the economy will depend as much on how permanent the gains in productivity are. Manufacturers have shown that they can change working practices which have been enshrined for a generation when their companies face the threat of destruction. The challenge of 1982 is to show that they can continue to improve in a more normal economic environment. The Government can do little directly to ensure that this occurs. But it can give industry some hope. Ministers are rightly determined that the sacrifices of the past two years shall not be thrown away. But there is more than one way to waste the improvements which have been achieved. The further pursuit of a policy of deflation would mean that the growth in output and employment that the policy is designed to produce in the long-term would be put off yet again. Neither the Government nor the country can afford to have that happen in 1982.

GAMEKEEPER TURNED POACHER

Trident Television have pulled off quite a coup in obtaining the services of Deputy Assistant Commissioner Neivens from the Metropolitan Police as executive director of Playboy. He is a man of wide experience, undoubted competence and — particularly important — unquestionable integrity. So was his predecessor in the Playboy job, Admiral Sir John Treacher, though his previous experience lay in an area which was not as obviously relevant to the post he held. But Sir John's appointment came too late to save Playboy from being adjudged unworthy of retaining its casino licences.

The appeal against the decision that Playboy is not fit and worthy to hold its casino licences is to be heard in a few weeks, and Trident, the new owners, clearly hope that the appointment of Mr Neivens, coupled with the change of ownership and management that has taken place since the hearing before the licensing justices, will be sufficient to persuade the

appeal court to restore the licences.

It is of course, to some extent, a public relations exercise. Yet Trident have a point of substance: as a guarantee that their gaming operations will be above board, they have engaged as their chief executive someone of the highest respectability who has had the experience to be able to spot corruption or law-breaking and to take steps to deal with it.

Nevertheless the appointment of Mr Neivens gives rise to a sense of disquiet, the sort of disquiet that is sometimes felt when senior civil servants on their retirement have taken remunerative posts in industry or commerce in the very field of activity in which they were busy as civil servants. There are rules governing the acceptance of these jobs by civil servants. There is no similar rule applicable to retired police officers, nor need there be for moral purposes. But gambling raises a special difficulty.

Responsibility for seeing

that gambling in casinos is conducted honestly lies with the Gaming Board and with the police. If the Metropolitan Police continue to object to the renewal of the Playboy licences when the appeal is heard, they will be opposing someone who was until very recently one of their most senior officers. If they withdraw their objections, their motives for doing so might, however wrongly, appear to have been influenced.

A wider objection to Mr Neivens' appointment — and this is no criticism of him — is that it might become a precedent awakening among senior police officers expectations that they, too, could look forward to a remunerative post-retirement career within an industry — and this does not apply only to gaming — on which they had previously been keeping a close eye. This is a situation which is acknowledged to be of concern in the civil service: an appearance of suspicion that conduct during a career might be influenced by expectation of future employment.

COLD AS CHARITY?

Already more than £1.5m has been given to the Penlee Lifeboat Disaster Fund, and it seems probable that total public donations may be enough to give each of the eight bereaved families about £250,000 in a division by equal shares. But it is doubtful whether the law would allow such a hand-out to be made under the usual exemptions from tax that charities enjoy (although an article on the facing page suggests that a similar end may be attainable if charity law is not applicable). Charities have to meet specified conditions regarding the relief of need, and so on. Many activities far from the layman's idea of charity find sanction, but the conferring of pool-winning wealth on the beneficiaries is not one of them.

The warning by the Penlee trustees that some of the money might have to be directed to related purposes like a general lifeboat widows' and orphans' fund has met negative reactions ranging from indignation to watchful concern in Cornwall, Westminster and even Downing Street. It would be sad if the affair sank into the kind of long acrimony which afflicted the Aberfan fund and other disaster funds which raised far more than enough to

cancel out the harm measurable in money terms suffered by those involved.

Most of those who contributed probably did so in the belief that their gifts would go straightforwardly to the families. If the families ended up better off than before, many might feel that was only fair compensation for grief and loss. But few can have foreseen just how large the windfall would be, and some will no doubt have given freely on the assumption that any surplus after reasonable needs were met would go to some related good cause, as with similar appeals in the past.

Misunderstandings of this kind are bad for the charitable process as a whole and cause extra distress to victims. The immediate reaction of some MPs has been to seek a change in the law ensuring that all the money raised in disaster appeals should go straight to the immediate victims. There is much to be said for the principle that charity law should meddle as little as possible with the desires of contributors. But it might prove difficult to change the law in a way that did not create equally troubling anomalies. If beneficiaries were seen living high on the gifts of others, the spec-

tacle might cause at least as much disenchantment with appeals as the diversion of money now threatened.

Human generosity is impulsive. Some deserving causes strike a chord, while others do not. (It is noticeable that money is not pouring in for the dependants of the sailors in the Union Star who perished in the same disaster.) Charity turns cold if it is doled out wholly on rational principles of philanthropy; but after need has been met, there is a case for enabling the superfluous to go to others who might have attracted the same sympathy if their misfortune had been as poignant, or as well publicised. Most would agree that it is right that where funds are available victims deserve sufficient, in immediate relief and funds held in trust, to ensure that they remain as well off after the accident as they could have expected to be before it, and that this should be calculated on a liberal basis. Existing charity law creates no obstacle to that. But where much money is left over, it is far from clear that the law's provisions to encourage its diversion to related objects are either against the public interest or fundamentally unfair.

drop to nil by March, 1983, and that by mid-1983 residential property in the UK will have a negative value. More work is needed. In the meantime we look forward to continued guidance from the pages of *The Times*. Yours faithfully, L. J. OLIVER, 27 The Little Boltons, SW10.

Lost property

From Mr L. J. Oliver
Sir, I was interested by your front-page headline on Tuesday (December 22) reporting a drop in house prices by 10 per cent. This announcement was qualified somewhat on the inside pages, but no matter. What is of more far-reaching importance is the

calculation by some agents that, if the present trend continues, the value of houses could fall by 40 per cent over the next nine months.

This penetrating economic analysis is of the greatest significance, but does it go far enough? I have calculated that further continuance of the trend will cause the value of houses to

Western approach to Poland's crisis

From Lord Gladwyn

Sir, Even some supporters of the CND may find Mr. E. P. Thompson's article on "Why the West must share the blame" (*The Times*, December 22) illogical and even rather silly. The villains are not, of course, as some might think, the Muscovites, who have achieved a vast nuclear monopoly, but rather the governments of "the West", who long for cold war and are only happy when Poland is under Soviet, or at least communist, control. For then they can proceed with their wicked plan for a nuclear "balance" and thus, in Mr Thompson's view, meritorily provoke a nuclear holocaust. Poland thus naturally delighted that Solidarity should have been suppressed: it was a dangerous de-stabilizing influence.

But all this is nonsense. The governments of "the West" have done their best to protect Solidarity and have frequently spoken of its dangerous consequences of its suppression. What they (rightly) feared was that if it went beyond a certain point it could result in a Soviet occupation of Poland, that really would put an end to "détente". General Jaruzelski appears to have been acting for the Soviet Government, which is not quite so bad. But his imposition of martial law can hardly be said to have been well received by the Polish people, who see it as an obvious and flagrant violation of the Helsinki agreements.

Mr Thompson evidently believes that if, a year or so ago, the United Kingdom had thrown away her nuclear arms and left Western Europe to the mercy of leaders (and politicians) out of step with the new dictator, most nations, despite the moment never being so opportune, are saying little and doing less about those who suffer in other countries under regimes equally if not more iniquitous than Poland's.

While it may be true, as Mr Wedgwood suggests, that protests lack bite because the Poles are in considerable debt to Western banks, I at least cannot recall such sustained concerted condemnation as has been levelled against the administrations of the countries he cites — or against South Africa, for that matter. However morally justifiable they may be, the movements of censure against Poland are also made in the certain knowledge that the crisis will provide enough ammunition to keep the West's anti-Soviet propaganda war machine firing for years to come.

Oppression is a hydra which scorns political delineations and wherever it rears itself we ought to stop it. But the motive for combat the monster, even if, in so doing, the West may not always reap the rich political harvest to be garnered from the misfortunes of the Polish people. Yours faithfully, BRIAN WARNER, 62 Leicester Place, Warwick, Warwickshire, December 24.

Outside Parliament

From Mr Lindsay Hall

Sir, The absence of an intelligent and dispassionate analysis of the present highly polarized disputes within the Labour Party, have left obscure an important principle at issue in the argument over the candidacy of Mr Peter Tatchell for the Bermondsey constituency and the evaluation of the "law lords" decision on the GLC's fares and rates. Fortunately, the recent events in Poland may help to throw it into sharper relief.

A major reason for the rejection of Mr Tatchell's candidacy was his express willingness to countenance or to participate in political action and protest outside Parliament; while Mr Foot is an ardent parliamentarian. But Parliament cannot be sacrosanct. Historically, it has usually played a credible role as an instrument for social change, the curbing of despotic monarchy and the temporal powers of the Church, the abolition of the slave trade and child labour, the Reform Act and the enfranchisement of women, were all just and necessary changes brought about

Europe, was subjected at the time to rigorous analysis by Nato governments (including my own Research Unit in the Foreign Office), and deemed unwelcome, as well as offering no serious arms control contribution except it had been practicable. (It would also have favoured the Warsaw Pact.)

In fact — as the Poles later admitted to us — the plan's real motive was the essentially political one of countering the possible acquisition of nuclear weapons by the German Federal Republic. The FDR was indeed already precluded from this under the Brussels Treaty agreements establishing Western European Union. But anyhow, once it had adhered to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, no more was heard of Rapacki.

If nevertheless Mr Thompson is interested in pursuing the matter, he could do worse than read the officially-sponsored, and now declassified, study made by the Bendix Corporation in the United States.

Yours, etc., MICHAEL CULLIS.

County End, Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire, December 21.

From Mr Brian Warner
Sir, Contrary to Mr David Wedgwood's strange assertion (December 24) that protests against the violation of human rights in Poland are inadequate whereas "when a general seizes power in some South or Central American state loud complaints are heard about... the iniquity of local tyrants", the iniquity of local tyrants is not the only reason why the present deplorable state of Civil Service morale screams out for constructive leadership — and from *The Times* by all means: when may we expect it? Could you give some thought, for example, to:

1. How it could be that if, as the Government states, Civil Service pay is now 5 per cent ahead of its external comparators, it has a 21 weeks' strike instead of producing the pay research reports which should have revealed the case for a much lower settlement than that which the Government introduced?

2. How it does Britain or her Civil Service any good to be so obsessed with reducing numbers that cost-effective jobs, for example, in the Inland Revenue are cut and additional inspectors are posted everywhere acknowledging that the cost-effective are not introduced?

3. The poignant paradox of Sir Derek Rayner's role, coming as he does from an outstandingly successful company which, I suspect, recognizes only too well that it is good business to be a

sexually frank as Mr Hodson's readers, but the range of problems, the misery and heartache were every bit as wide as today. What is perhaps surprising is that with our present-day network of social services and voluntary caring agencies there is still this overwhelming need for people to unburden themselves to a "paper figure".

If what Mr Hodson suggests is true, that the Minister of Health is more concerned to spend public money advertising the advantages of the word "no" as a contraceptive than to campaign for sex education in schools, the sooner the Government stops dreaming of a white wedding the better it will be able to tackle the practicalities of modern day life.

The Government should leave the job of moralising to religious leaders who, if the Pope's recent apostolic exhortation on family life, *Familiaris Consortio*, is anything to go by, lack none of the zeal and fervour required for the job.

Yours faithfully, VERA HOUGHTON, Becks Cottage, Whitehill Lane, Bletchingley, Redhill, Surrey, December 20.

Am I alone in finding this squallid little episode thoroughly distasteful? Is the prestige of the courts enhanced by such petty-minded demands for services from those brought before them? If this is what is meant by that ambiguous expression law and order then the less of it we have the better, so far as I am concerned.

Yours faithfully, GERALD BONNER, University of Durham, Department of Theology, Abbey House, Durham, December 19.

their employees in order to persuade them to accept their wages in a cashless form.

To the financial advantages involved in cashless payment systems must surely be added the greatly reduced risk of loss of life or injury due to criminal attacks. Who is going to attack a garage attendant simply to steal a supply of credit-card payment forms?

Yours faithfully, L. MCCAULEY, 11 Melbourne Street, Plymouth, December 19.

Picking up the Civil Service pieces

From the General Secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation

Sir, Whether it is true or false that Mrs Thatcher has vetoed honours for any civil servant who was on strike this year I do not know. But what is very probable indeed is that (except perhaps for the very senior ranks) the value placed upon honours by the vast majority of civil servants is very much the figment of the imagination of the press.

It is ludicrous to think that half a million civil servants are motivated to any meaningful degree whatsoever by the remote prospect of an ISO or an MBE. At the very top it may be different: it could just be that without the Knights and the CBs government would not have been able over the last twenty years to erode the differential of a permanent secretary over a deputy secretary from 222 per cent to 151 per cent or that of a deputy secretary over an under secretary from 158 per cent to 119 per cent without facing significant wastage of outstanding ability to the private sector and even more difficulty over recruitment. After 1981 that I believe, lies ahead now anyway.

Just at the top the country may well have secured a better honours bargain than it experienced under Lloyd George. What disturbed me much more about your leader ("Gongs and honours", December 30) therefore, is not what you said, but that with room to deal with so few issues a day, you find space for the largely irrelevant question of Civil Service honours.

Certainly the present deplorable state of Civil Service morale screams out for constructive leadership — and from *The Times* by all means: when may we expect it? Could you give some thought, for example, to:

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leader in personnel policy as well as in turnover and profitability. The sad fact is that since the present Government took office the Civil Service has been seriously mismanaged and is responding accordingly. The loser in the end is the nation as a whole, but that will not become fully obvious for another decade. Picking up the pieces is overdue: will *The Times* not try?

Yours faithfully, TONY CHRISTOPHER, General Secretary, Inland Revenue Staff Federation, 7 St George's Square, SW1, December 30.

From Mr Christopher Harmer
Sir, It is not I submit, a question of whether Mrs Thatcher is being "bitchy" in relation to civil servants' honours (report, December 29) but whether they have any right to them at all. Why should they?

When I was young, civil servants received honours because (a) they served the nation with single-mindedness and dedication and (b) they were remunerated at rates substantially less than those available in ordinary civilian life.

Nowadays they claim the right to comparability in salaries with the private sector, to totally unjustified index-linked pensions provided largely at the expense of the state, and to withdraw their services and to boast, yes boast, of the damage they are doing to the nation they have undertaken to serve — if they do not get their way in relation to their pay.

In the higher echelons they use their positions, their contacts and their honours to retire and fix themselves up with even better paid positions in the private sector whenever it suits them to do so.

This, I believe, is an affront to the nation. No civil servant, in my opinion, should receive any honour of any sort until after he has retired, when his record, the dedication he has given to the service, and the extent to which he has exploited his position to serve his own ends should be taken into account.

In this way only the worthy would be rewarded and we should be spared the automatic Ks and Cs attached mainly to the element of survival and the exploitation of success achieved in competitive examinations many years previously.

Yours truly, CHRISTOPHER HARMER, Springfield House, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, December 29.

Origin of life

From the Reverend Canon D. L. Howells

Sir, One of the illustrations John Henry Newman gives in support of his theory of development is this:

"If beasts of prey were once in paradise, and fed upon grass, they must have presented bodily phenomena very different from the structure, muscles, claws, teeth and viscera which now fit them for a carnivorous existence." (*An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*, 1845).

Would the creationists be good enough to tell us whether this development was the result of a miraculous metamorphosis when the animals left the Garden of Eden — or by some process of evolution? Yours faithfully, DONALD HOWELLS, The Rectory, Church Yard, Tring, Hertfordshire.

From Mr Ben Vincent

Sir, As a Quaker elder so aged that some have speculated whether I came out of the Ark, may I make the daring suggestion that neither the scientists nor the religious have the faintest idea how either matter or human beings came into existence? As for God being responsible for this dubious conjuring trick, I repeat the sentiment of the pious scientist Laplace: *I have no need for that hypothesis.*

Meanwhile I am encouraging the parents of my several grandchildren to foster an interest they may show in the phenomena which could someday bring us a little nearer to grasping the problems involved (I say "us" but I don't really include myself, as I have no aspirations to emulate Methuselah). I am also recommending them to confine their use of the word God to dialogue between consenting adults, who may have some idea of the mysterious *tremendum et fascinans* implied by that locution.

This is a tradition of Quakerism and of the most ancient monotheistic religion. People using the word frivolously take it in vain and those who use science fanatically are almost equally blasphemous. Whatever is there wrong in admitting you don't know something?

Yours faithfully, BEN VINCENT, The Penn Club, 22 Bedford Place, WC1.

Simple division

From Mr Andrew S. Well

Sir, The continuing correspondence in your columns makes clear that we should simply form two new churches: the Church of Argument and the Church of Unity. The first will be exclusive to those with holy orders of one kind or another, and the other inclusive to the rest of us. I doubt we could meet occasionally in our churches, when a certain might be taken for the other.

Yours faithfully, ANDREW SEWELL, Bay House, Aldbourne, Marlborough, Wiltshire, December 23.

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duke of Kent, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, will attend a reception for Lord Boyle of Lichfield, given by the Duchess of Kent, at the University of London on January 18.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. T. D. Dore and Miss C. E. Newbould
The forthcoming marriage is announced between Mr John Dore, son of Mr and Mrs John Dore, and Miss Catherine Susan Newbould, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Newbould, of Claydon, Suffolk, on February 11.

Mr R. C. Green and Miss S. M. Schofield
The engagement is announced between Mr Richard Green, son of Mr and Mrs R. Green, of Tanworth, Chaddesley Corbett, Kidderminster, and Sarah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Schofield, of Dormers Close, Rushock, Droitwich.

Mr S. R. Hampton and Miss J. Orr
The engagement is announced between Mr Stephen Hampton, son of Mr and Mrs S. Hampton, of Old Barn, Shalfleet, Isle of Wight, and Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Orr, of The House, Bath Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight.

Mr C. M. Jones and Miss P. H. Sinclair
The engagement is announced between Mr Charles Jones, son of Mr and Mrs J. E. Jones, of Lichfield, Staffordshire, and Philippa, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. K. Sinclair, of Rockcliffe, Kirkcubrightshire.

Capt A. W. Ledger and Miss K. S. Martineau
The engagement is announced between Mr Andrew Ledger, The Queen's Own Hussars, youngest son of Mr and Mrs P. W. Ledger, of Tredenhall Cottage, St Mawes, Cornwall, and Karin, daughter of Commander and Mrs R. Martineau, of Moses Hill Farm, Haslemere, Surrey.

The Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will attend the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce annual dinner at the City Hall, Cardiff, on February 11.

Mr C. C. P. Muscio and Miss A. F. M. Rossi
The engagement is announced between Mr Christopher Muscio, son of Mr and Mrs C. Muscio, of Sydenham, London, and Anna, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Rossi, of Forest Hill, London.

Mr M. R. E. Garrod and Miss S. E. Garrod
The engagement is announced between Mr Michael Garrod, son of Mr and Mrs F. Garrod, of Leeds, and Sonia Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. E. Garrod, of Beck Hall, Billingham, Norfolk.

Mr D. F. Wale and Miss S. C. J. Jones
The engagement is announced between Mr David Wale, son of Mr and Mrs D. Wale, of Harborne, Birmingham, and Susan, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E. R. Jones, of Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Marriages

Mr F. Furlonger and Mrs H. Sherwood
Mr Felix Furlonger and Mrs Hedda Ingrid Sherwood were married at Chelsea Register Office on December 22, 1981.

Mr A. N. Ratcliffe and Miss S. E. Davies
The marriage took place on December 18 at the parish church of St Andrew, Nicholas Ratcliffe, of Battersea, London, and Miss Sarah Eleanor Davies, of Raglan, Gwent.

Mr R. S. M. Sinclair and Miss A. F. M. Morris
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 19, 1981, in the Church of St Michael, Sinclair, third son of Mr and Mrs K. S. L. Sinclair, of Rushington, Sussex, and Miss Angela Frances Mary Morris, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. G. Morris, of Folkestone, Kent. The Rev Bryan Marshall officiated, assisted by the Dean of Chichester, the Very Rev Robert Holby and the Canon Christopher Luxmoore.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs Brenda Davies and Mrs Jane Chambers. Mr Keith Sinclair was best man.

The many faces of Christian unity

The discussions now in progress about a Covenant for Unity are coinciding with a growing realization, not least among enthusiasts for the covenant, that the ending of divisions between churches separated along denominational lines, which the covenant is designed to bring about, is but one aspect of the search for Christian unity, and that it is not necessarily the most important.

It is claimed that the Church of England is not one church but two; on the one hand there is the church of the suburbs and commuterland, where congregations are still able to spend thousands of pounds on extending their premises and can afford paid pastoral and administrative staff; while on the other hand there is the church of the inner city, characterized by closures and amalgamations and the moral-sapping battle against vandalism.

The suggestion is made that diocesan bishops, as the focal points of unity in their dioceses, should initiate imaginative "twinning" of suburban churches with inner-city churches, thereby exposing the former not only to the problems of their inner-city sisters, but also to the remarkable spiritual life which exists in many urban areas.

The reality of unemployment

is inevitably falling heavily on the inner city areas and peripheral housing estates, adding to the difference between the suburbs and the less privileged areas. Yet there is a lack of real communication between local churches in these two types of areas at a time when interdependence needs to be realized more than ever. The church of the inner city needs to be supported and sustained as a part of the church's task in furthering its mission in society, and its own unity.

The division between the inner city and suburbs is paralleled by that between the "haves" of the northern hemisphere and the "have-nots" of the southern. Those who attend international gatherings and rub shoulders with their fellow Christians from the Third World say that the world church is divided far more deeply by reason of contrasts of wealth and poverty than it is by reason of denominational barriers.

St Paul's collection for the poor Christians at Jerusalem was a main concern of his missionary travels, for which he was willing to risk his life; it was also an ecumenical enterprise, undertaken by the world church of the unity of the church.

Archbishop William Temple's ecumenical vision was of a unity that could survive even a situation in which Christians found themselves

on opposite sides in time of war. "I think," he wrote, "that the maintenance of the spiritual fellowship of all Christians is for the church a concern that takes precedence even of the military defeat of Nazism." While Bonhoeffer sent a message, "I need not assure you that we will do everything to maintain fellowship in thought and prayer."

It was in furtherance of such a vision that the religious broadcasting department of the BBC broadcast a simple religious service in German each week during the war, short of war propaganda, that Bonhoeffer risked his life to meet the Bishop of Chichester at Stockholm in 1942; and that a year before the war ended, the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches was planning meetings of churchmen from Germany and the Allied countries which would take place as soon as possible after the ending of hostilities.

Orthodox Church was almost completely isolated from the churches of the West. The Russian people, and Russian Christians among them, have for a long time been subjected to Communist propaganda; and the churches still undergo restrictions which the churches of the West have not experienced in modern times. There are, moreover, deep cultural dif-

ferences between Russia and the West.

Yet there are a great many Christians in Russia and other Communist-dominated countries, reports suggest that they are much more numerous than Western Christians have realized or than the Communist government admit. It is said that they are to be found in all walks of life: among scholars as well as among peasants, in learned institutions, in workers' organizations, in labour camps and even in the party.

The Soviet leadership may wish that religion would die stamp it out; but it is now recognizing the increasing influence of the church. Those who hitherto regarded religion with suspicion and hostility are now announcing their readiness to make common cause with it.

A world religious "summit conference" is being planned for next autumn. The proposal originated with Archbishop Sundby of Uppsala, head of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and an approach has been made to Patriarch Pimen of Moscow. A church overarch the divide between Eastern Europe and the West could yet make a significant and far-reaching contribution to the peace, the safety and the unity of the world.

John Pilkington
Rector of Farlington, Portsmouth

The Night Sky in January

By Our Astronomy Correspondent

Mercury will be at greatest evening elongation (19°) on the 15th, but at its brightest earlier in the month. At sunset on the 16th, its altitude will be about 21°. It will set about one and a half hours later.

Venus will be at inferior conjunction on the 21st, but should be visible in the sunset glow at the beginning of the month. It is still very bright, although a thin crescent. It will be seen to the north of Mercury on the 9th.

Mars is a morning object, rising in the early hours at the beginning of the month, but before midnight by the end of the month. Jupiter, a morning object, crosses from Virgo into Libra. It will rise about one hour after midnight during the month, magnitude 1.5, moon in the area on the 18th.

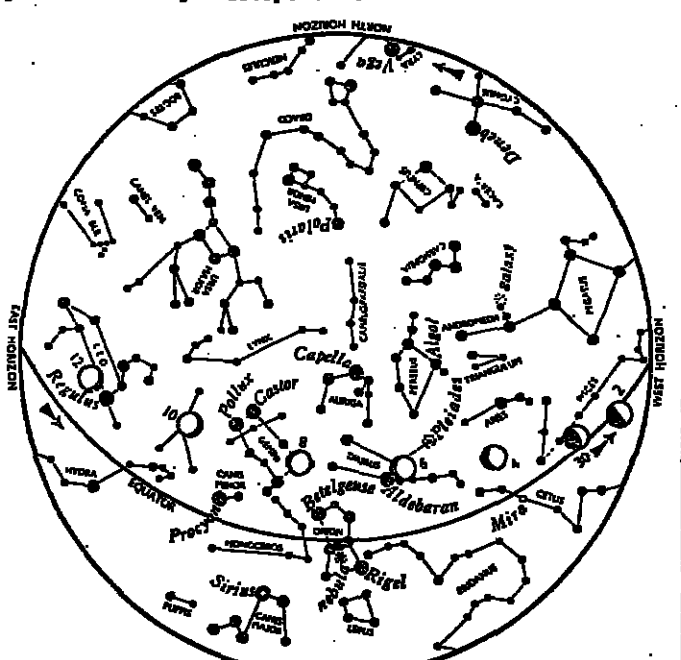
Saturn is also a morning object, rising about an hour before Jupiter, magnitude +0.9 in Virgo. Moon near it on the 16th. The rings are opening out after being edge-on last year. The morning star in Scorpius, but it is not visible to the naked eye. Neptune is a morning star in Taurus, but is also not visible to the naked eye.

The Moon: first quarter, 3d 05h; full, 9d 04h (eclipse); last quarter, 16d 24h; new, 25d 05h (eclipse). Approximate times of evening minima are 3d 22m, 6d 19h, 26d 21h and 29d 18h. The Earth will be at perihelion the point nearest to the Sun in the elliptical orbit, at 4d 11h.

The eclipse of the Moon on the 21st will be total. It will begin at a point roughly nine o'clock on the disc at 18h 14m; totality will be from 19h 17m to 20h 35m; the Moon will leave the umbra (full shadow) at 21h 28m. The partial eclipse of the sun on the 25th, will not be visible from Britain, but only from Antarctica.

1982 is a special eclipse year, with the maximum number of seven eclipses last happened in 1935. The plane of the moon's orbit about the earth is inclined to that of the ecliptic (the Sun by 5° so the three bodies will not normally be in a straight line at new or full moon.

The orbit of the Moon intersects the Sun-Earth plane at two points called the nodes; if the Moon is new or full at or near a node there will be an eclipse followed by another in December, this full moon is very rare. The 1935 sequence was 3-3-1. This year, we have 2-3-2.



More often than not, there are two eclipses, one on each side of the month, four in the year. Only two, one at each node, is rather rare. If we ignore the unnoteworthy lunar eclipses, the Moon enters only the penumbra or half shadow; it has happened only twice in 20 years.

It is possible to have three eclipses at one or both of the nodes at will happen in June-July. This would give a maximum of six eclipses in a year. In 1946, the line of the nodes is not fixed in space but rotates in a direction opposite from that of the moon's orbital motion so that the nodes, if you like, by 19° per year.

Thus if eclipses begin early in the year, as in 1982, it is possible to have some of a third set in December, this full moon is very rare. The 1935 sequence was 3-3-1. This year, we have 2-3-2.

At this time of year, we have the greatest possibility of night sky studies, as the hours of darkness are long. The stars reach the same position relative to the observer two hours earlier for each month later at a fixed time the sky seems to rotate westward at 15° per hour. In the six hours from 18h to midnight, it makes a quarter of a rotation, and this displayed three-quarters of all the equatorial region, more of northerly regions.

Readers are reminded that earlier maps (disregarding the Moon and planets) are very useful. At the beginning of the month, the current map applied to 23h. The December one to 21h and November 19h or 18h by mid-month.

As the sky darkens the summer triangle of Vega, Deneb and Altair dominates the western half of the sky. The dominating features by night will be Orion in the south and Gemini and Leo in the east.

Law Report January 2 1982 Queen's Bench Division

Dependent on fishing for livelihood

Regina v South West Water Authority, Ex parte Cox and Others
Before Mr Justice Woolf

[Judgment delivered December 10]
A person who is dependent on fishing for his livelihood, within the meaning of section 26(4) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 and the South West Water Authority (Limitation of Salmons and Trout Netting Licences) Order 1980, is a person who carries on the occupation of fishing and who relies to a substantial extent on fishing for his family's ordinary living expenses.

Four applicants sought judicial review of the South West Water Authority's decision on March 11, 1981 to issue only 14 licences in 1981 for salmon and trout fishing with drift or seine nets in the River Taw and River Torridge, and against the authority's choice of persons to whom the licences were issued.

Queen's Bench Division, granted the application for judicial review but made no orders in respect of the relief sought.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Henry Atkinson, for the applicants; Mr Michael Brabin for the water authority.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that section 26 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 provided for the limitation of salmon and trout fishing licences by order of the water authority concerned. Section 26(4) provided that the minister should not confirm an order unless he was satisfied that the terms relating to the selection of applicants for licences ensured that a person "dependent on fishing for his livelihood" who held a licence in the preceding year was able to obtain a licence.

In February 1981, the Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food confirmed the South West Water Authority's (Limitation of Salmon and Trout Netting Licences) Order 1980. The order limited the issue of licences in a specified area to 14 and provided that in allocating the licences preference would be given to persons who were

dependent on fishing for their livelihood who held a licence in the preceding year, and that if the prescribed number of licences was insufficient to enable all applicants dependent on fishing to obtain a licence, an additional number would be issued.

The applicants submitted that the water authority had misconstrued the words "dependent on fishing for his livelihood" in refusing to grant them licences. It was the authority's view that the word "dependent" referred to fishing as an exclusive source of income or to earning a living. But they decided to give preference in granting licences to persons who were full-time fishermen.

The issue was whether the order and section 26(4) referred to a person solely dependent on fishing or to one who was dependent in part on fishing to a substantial extent.

The words in question were ordinary English words which should not be too difficult to apply. Problems arose when attempts were made to substitute the statutory words with others or to read in words which did not.

There might be situations where although a person had another source of income he could still properly be said to be dependent on fishing for his livelihood. Such cases had to be protected. Such cases had to be considered by the water authority, but they were capable of determination either way.

His Lordship made no order save granting the applicants' costs.

Solicitors: Ward Bowie for Selton, Ward & Nuttall, Bideford; Mr Ian Todd, Exeter.

Leading Wren Jan Redfearn, a photographer based at HMS Daedalus, Hampshire, patrolling with a Solent Sea and Rescue Squadron helicopter. Photographers are often carried to record rescue incidents.

British chess champion surges into the lead

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Hastings

With a short and sweet win over the Dutch grandmaster, Hans Kramnik, the British champion, Paul Littlewood, assumed the lead with four points at the end of round 4 in the ICL Grandmasters tournament at Hastings. He took admirable advantage of Re's weak play in the opening to win a piece, and defeating him in 20 moves.

Meanwhile his chief rival, Kramnik, was under considerable pressure from Taulbut, who gained a pawn and looked to be winning easily enough when the game was adjourned. However, Taulbut failed to find a winning continuation when the game was resumed and though it was again adjourned, it must now be reckoned as a drawn position.

Nigel Short made a welcome

return to form by winning in fine combative style against the New Zealand master, Murray Chandler. Szabo, in beating the American grandmaster, Christensen, gave some indication of the power of a player who used to win first prize at Hastings regularly more than twenty years ago.

SCORES: P. Littlewood 4; Kramnik 3; Re 3; Speelman and Szabo 2; Taulbut, Chandler, Christensen and Andersson 1. **RESULTS OF ROUND 4:** Mestel 1, Littlewood 2, Kramnik 2, Szabo 1, Chandler 0, Speelman 0, Re 0, Taulbut 0, Christensen 0, Andersson 0, Short 0, Gelfand 0, Nunn 0, Adams 0, Burrows 0, Miles 0, Wood 0, Housley 0, Gledhill 0, Gelfand 0, Nunn 0, Adams 0, Burrows 0, Miles 0, Wood 0, Housley 0, Gledhill 0.

Surrey pair win bridge contest

By a Bridge Correspondent

The Harpers and Queen annual women's bridge pairs championship at the Europa Hotel, London, over two sessions on December 30 was won by Mrs A. Flood and Mrs N. Sinclair, of Farnham, Surrey, with a score of more than 69 per cent, which put them more than 200 points ahead of the Warwickshire runners-up.

As the sky darkens the summer triangle of Vega, Deneb and Altair dominates the western half of the sky. The dominating features by night will be Orion in the south and Gemini and Leo in the east.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):
Aurworth, Mr Angus Whiteford, of Belgrave, London, barrister, £1,278,041.
Bridgeman, Viscountess, of Minterley, Shropshire, £155,326.
Cartwright, Mrs Hester, of Cove, Dorset, £172,147.
Kingsley, Mr Maurice, of Didsbury, Manchester, £265,917.

Prayers for Poland
About 20,000 young people gathered in London for peace prayers in Poland yesterday at the end of the five-day Taizé pilgrimage.

Services tomorrow: Second Sunday after Christmas

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, HC: 8.10.30, Sung Eucharist; 10.30, Sung Eucharist; 11.30, Sung Eucharist; 12.30, Sung Eucharist; 1.30, Sung Eucharist; 2.30, Sung Eucharist; 3.30, Sung Eucharist; 4.30, Sung Eucharist; 5.30, Sung Eucharist; 6.30, Sung Eucharist; 7.30, Sung Eucharist; 8.30, Sung Eucharist; 9.30, Sung Eucharist; 10.30, Sung Eucharist; 11.30, Sung Eucharist; 12.30, Sung Eucharist; 1.30, Sung Eucharist; 2.30, Sung Eucharist; 3.30, Sung Eucharist; 4.30, Sung Eucharist; 5.30, Sung Eucharist; 6.30, Sung Eucharist; 7.30, Sung Eucharist; 8.30, Sung Eucharist; 9.30, Sung Eucharist; 10.30, Sung Eucharist; 11.30, Sung Eucharist; 12.30, Sung Eucharist; 1.30, Sung Eucharist; 2.30, Sung Eucharist; 3.30, Sung Eucharist; 4.30, Sung Eucharist; 5.30, Sung Eucharist; 6.30, Sung Eucharist; 7.30, Sung Eucharist; 8.30, Sung Eucharist; 9.30, Sung Eucharist; 10.30, Sung Eucharist; 11.30, Sung Eucharist; 12.30, Sung Eucharist; 1.30, Sung Eucharist; 2.30, Sung Eucharist; 3.30, Sung Eucharist; 4.30, Sung Eucharist; 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Saturday Review

The secret of Nijinsky's boyhood

The greatest dancer ballet has ever known was driven from the stage by madness at the peak of his power. Nijinsky's tragic story has been dissected ever since. Two central mysteries persist: the causes of his schizophrenia; and the hidden years of his childhood. Exciting new evidence sheds light on both these crucial areas. John Heilpern reports from New York



Nijinsky in L'Après-midi d'un Faune. Left to right: Eleonora and Thomas Nijinsky (his mother and father); Romola Nijinsky (his wife); Bronislava Nijinska (his sister); and, below, Serge Diaghilev.



Two significant publications in America have reopened the case of Vaslav Nijinsky, shedding new light on the man — arguably the greatest dancer ballet has ever known — who was driven from the stage by madness in 1917 at the peak of his power.

Nijinsky's tragic story has been argued over, written about and dissected for more than half a century. To this day, passionate debates still take place in the ballet world about the possible damage done to him by his homosexual lover, Diaghilev, or by his ambitious wife, Romola. (It is the stuff, alas, of which Hollywood biopics are made). On the other hand, as the critic John Russell points out, it is as if Nijinsky brought to the world a mysterious, unnamed, and entirely redoubtable something from the collective unconscious itself.

But at the centre of Nijinsky's life there has always remained the most fundamental mystery of all — the causes of his schizophrenia at 29. Linked closely to this, in terms of conventional psychoanalytical needs, has also been a lack of any details about Nijinsky's early childhood. It is both these crucial areas that the exciting new evidence sheds light.

First, a suppressed essay that was written by the psychoanalyst Alfred Adler in 1936 as a preface to *The Diary of Nijinsky* has been published, for the first time, in the *Archives of General Psychiatry*. The preface is the only first-hand opinion of Nijinsky's insanity made by a professional psychiatrist to have been published.

It was known that other leading experts of the day, including Freud and Jung, visited Nijinsky. Yet Adler, who saw him at the Sanatorium Bellevue in Switzerland in 1934, is not even mentioned by Romola Nijinsky in her memoirs. It was Romola, however, who invited Adler to write the preface to the *Diary* and it was she who suppressed it. When Nijinsky's *Diary* was published in 1936, she substituted her own preface for Adler's.

Secondly, following the revelation of the missing preface, the early memoirs of Bronislava Nijinska (the sister of Nijinsky) have just been published in America — giving us, among many unprecedented insights into the entire Nijinsky-Diaghilev period, the first authentic account of Nijinsky's early childhood.

Richard Buckle's highly detailed 1971 biography, for example, begins when Nijinsky was aged nine. It would not be an exaggeration to claim that, within the voluminous Nijinsky literature, Bronislava offers a first-hand account of her brother that brings him to life as never before. It was Bronislava Nijinska who knew him best.

The renowned and heart-breaking *Nijinsky Diary*, written in secret as Nijinsky collapsed into insanity during 1917-1919, is regarded as a textbook example of schizophrenia. (Potential schizophrenics are still known to show the book to their analysts and say "this is how I feel"). Heinz L. Ansbacher, Professor of Psychology Emeritus at the University of Vermont and the editor of many of Adler's key works — he was Adler's pupil — points out that Romola Nijinsky suppressed the original preface to the *Diary* because she found its clinical observations distasteful. In particular, she objected to Adler's belief that Nijinsky's schizophrenia was rooted in a pathological sense of inferiority.

Adler, who joined Freud and Jung as a founder of psychoanalysis, eventually went his own way and virtually invented the phrase "inferiority complex". In broad terms, however, Adler's approach was concrete and existential. His emphasis in treatment was on the facts of the case and their social context rather than on theory, sexual or otherwise. For example, Adler believed that schizophrenia was not a "split mind" but a total split from the real world outside. The patient separates himself from reality and lives in his own world, as Nijinsky did.

Unlike Freud, who believed schizophrenia to be incurable, Adler held out some hope of possible recovery. Romola therefore asked him to write the preface.

But, according to a personal communication from Romola's literary agent to Dr Ansbacher in 1974, she held that "the argument that Nijinsky suffered from an inferiority complex is entirely erroneous and was at the time categorically refuted by Jung". Mrs Nijinsky then replaced Adler's preface, which appeared to compromise the Nijinsky legend, with her own preface, which glorified Nijinsky.

Dr Ansbacher points out, correctly, that Romola's goal from the start was to become known as the devoted wife of the great Nijinsky, "a goal for which she was prepared to pay any price and which she indeed attained". It was characteristic of her that she should continue to deify Nijinsky throughout his 30 years of insanity.

"He could not escape, with his incorporeal, sensitive nature, the fate of all great humanitarians — he was sacrificed", she wrote in her own preface. "I am giving you this diary in the hope that it will be of interest to many and will help, as a textbook for students of psychology, to shed some light on the mind and heart of Nijinsky."

The issue raises a serious question of authenticity. If Romola could suppress the Adler preface, did she doctor the *Diary* itself?

Nijinsky's *Diary* was first published in 1946 and was edited by Romola. In 1979, the three original black notebooks were sold at a Sotheby's auction for more than \$100,000. Missing from the 1946 publication were approximately 30,000 words.

Romola therefore suppressed about one third of the original. However, before the notebooks were sold I had a chance to compare them with the published version. Romola had cut out many obsessively repetitive passages — perhaps a correct decision — and long erotic passages, explicit sexual references and poems. She may have been right to have done so on grounds of taste. But as far as I could tell, in what must be emphasized was a limited study of scarcely two hours, there are no crucial differences between the original notebooks and Romola's published version, save for the scatological sections. There is also evidence of Nijinsky's onanism and sex life that Romola did not suppress, as well as criticism of herself.

But when Adler saw Nijinsky, he did not see any "beautiful mystery" of his mind and heart. "When I visited him two years ago in a sanatorium," Adler wrote in 1936, "he was quiet, well nourished and interested in his guests. But he did not speak and only occasionally broke into a

friendly laugh. The attending physician informed me that his patient was always quiet and way and virtually never spoke."

Until towards the end of his life, Nijinsky scarcely spoke a word to anyone. He could become hysterical, hallucinating. He had to be looked after day and night. But he remained mostly silent, numb and withdrawn: a shell.

"Our poor hero", Adler wrote, "badly prepared for life, burdened from childhood with highly strained expectations, lacking the ordinary course of education, and put automatically in a class of people whose better schooling and background made him feel slighted, tried in vain to save his striving for superiority by despising rational thinking. To cling to his 'style of life' he turned to traditionalism, no longer controlling it by reason. When his hope of unheard-of glory had gone, he did not change his style, but devoted himself to the daydreams of his childhood."

But had Nijinsky not been an outstanding figure of the stage and admired in two continents as "the god of dance"? The *Diary* reveals, Adler reminds us, that Nijinsky felt a great part of what he expected from life was missing. It does not matter whether this was the real truth. There are no untruths. There is only the "reality" of the patient.

That is why Adler wrote in a chilling sentence that the frustrated hopes of the sane are "a hundred and a hundred times surpassed by the passion which flares in the minds of the neurotic and psychotic". For Adler, schizophrenia was "a form of death".

In line with most current thinking, Adler also conceded that a genetic factor could explain why only certain individ-



Alfred Adler: a suppressed preface to Nijinsky's *Diary*.

uals break completely with reality. The problem here is that in Nijinsky's case there is no evidence of insanity on either side of the family.

Nijinsky's father, a brilliant itinerant dancer, could explode into uncontrollable rages — but that is all. Nijinsky's older brother, Stassik, was mentally retarded — but that was the outcome of a bad fall at the age of six, before that he had led a normal life, but he was to die in an asylum. Nijinsky's sister, Bronislava, remained stable all her life.

We are left, then, with Adler's analysis, and according to the known facts, it rings true. Nijinsky, a child prodigy, the son of an ambitious mother, was certainly expected to achieve greatness. He was cruelly treated

by his envious classmates: "Are you a girl, that you dance so well?" they asked him. The child of poor Polish parents, he was despised for his accent and apparent slow-wittedness in the aristocratic Imperial Ballet School at St Petersburg. He was laughed at for his Tatar or Mongolian looks, and nicknamed "the little Jew". His classmates made his life a misery. "He was made to feel inferior at every turn," one of them, Anatole Bourman, wrote later.

In adulthood, Nijinsky was most often described as taciturn, nervous, anti-social, and extremely passive. His greatest stage roles were non-human: a puppet, a faun, a rose. Unlike his mesmerizing androgyny on stage, his appearance off was ridiculed as "it had been in childhood. Nijinsky's height was below average. His soul and body were one single professional deformation. His face, with its Mongol features, was linked to his body by a very long, very thick neck. His fingers were stubby. In short, no one could have thought that this little ape was the idol of the public."

So wrote Jean Cocteau, who was no oil painting himself. As further evidence of Adler's claim that Nijinsky was not interested in social relationships — in effect, in real life — the diaries show us that the passive Nijinsky had little interest in sex either male or female. (Admittedly he visited prostitutes in Moscow and Paris occasionally, but these visits can be seen as further evidence of his avoidance of social relationships). Adler does not mention this, perhaps out of respect to Romola. Bronislava, in her memoirs, is also discreet.

But, when all is said and done, we reach the same point. "For Vaslav Nijinsky", writes John Russell, "the working life was the only real life, with human contacts a pastime that was probably pointless, possibly dangerous, and in the end entirely destructive."

"Sooner or later", Adler concluded, "especially when confronted by the problems of social life, of occupation and of love, such a person gains the impression that the environment is constantly attacking him. Not comprehending the situation, he experiences this as a repeated insult, is subjected to a series of shocks until finally his resistance is completely broken."

That is what happened to Nijinsky. We now know for certain from Bronislava that

Nijinsky's relationship with Diaghilev was over before he met Romola. At the same time, to Nijinsky's credit, Diaghilev was abandoned for his choreographer. Nijinsky's revolutionary new ballets, *Jeu* and *Le Sacre du Printemps* — which were years ahead of their time, anticipating the new age of modern neoclassical ballet — had failed with the Paris public. Nijinsky openly called the great Diaghilev a coward and a fake for refusing to keep the ballets in the Ballet Russe repertoire.

He fled his mentor. I once asked that other renowned Russian ballet defector, Nureyev, whether it was really a mistake for Nijinsky to have broken away from Diaghilev's control. "Not necessarily," Nureyev replied. "His mistake was not to know where he was going."

A nice point. Nijinsky's impulsive marriage to Romola — they had scarcely met and could not even speak the same language — led directly to the psychological collapse six years later. Without the protection of Diaghilev, Nijinsky could not take even a simple decision about money, for like royalty, everything had always been organized for him. But, more important, Romola, the spoiled socialite, could not offer Nijinsky artistic fulfilment. In spite of their creative differences it was Diaghilev who created the circumstances that enabled Nijinsky to function. Nijinsky had unknowingly left him for an artistic void.

Adler's preface, however, makes no mention of Romola, so violating one of his basic principles, the patient's social context. The reason is clear: Romola herself was part of the problem. Though she lovingly cared for her husband for 30 years and eventually helped him regain a sense of reality, Dr Ansbacher points out that she "implicitly elevated herself to the attendant and in fact controller of a god". Nijinsky fought back in various ways — finding cover from her domination behind his illness while enslaving her with his dependency. Romola's unconditional love had unwittingly trapped Nijinsky further in the abyss.

Though other psychologists will doubtless interpret Nijinsky's schizophrenia differently from the Adlerian perspective, there is, however, one vital area in Adler's preface that is wrong. Adler assumed from the evidence before him — as every commentator has done

since — that Nijinsky's earliest childhood was unhappy. In the pre-psychotic period of a potentially psychotic child, Adler wrote, "are always to be found signs of a peculiar conception of life." He took this to be Nijinsky's early lack of social interest. The point is that Bronislava Nijinska's memoirs present an entirely different picture of the young Nijinsky.

It is now clear that Nijinsky grew up well read and with a perfect ear for music. Far from being the sullen, slow-witted youth to be moulded wholly by Diaghilev, he was a child filled with abundant energy and curiosity, dancing in public at the age of three. He could play six musical instruments without taking a lesson in any of them. When he returned home from a visit to the opera, he filled the piano and repeated perfectly the music he had heard.

Far from being anti-social, he was playful and mixed easily, particularly with circus people. He disappeared on escapades with local gypsies. In the country, he fished and climbed. He travelled eagerly through Russia with his parents. He was reckless and open-hearted, without guile. From Bronislava's vivid descriptions he could not have had a better or more interesting childhood.

And one believes her account. Her memoirs strike one as authentic and scrupulously fair to all concerned. Bronislava, assured of her own place in ballet history, is one of the few observers of Nijinsky who do not appear to have any axes to grind. But where, then, were the young Nijinsky's pre-psychotic tendencies, and what began his break with reality?

Bronislava records that her brother was marked by the emotional trauma of his parents' separation — as she was — and then by his elder brother's mental illness. His father, a handsome man, abandoned the family for his mistress before Nijinsky was eight years old. Bronislava writes that the young Nijinsky suffered silently over his mother's grief and would publicly take her side. "It was as if," she writes, "he were throwing father out of his heart."

During the time Nijinsky's father lived with the family, Bronislava also recalls that Nijinsky was frightened of him. His protective mother would intercede on Nijinsky's behalf, preventing any physical punishment for some childish prank. In what could be a key phrase in

trying to establish any early disorder that threatened Nijinsky's future, Bronislava writes more than once that the young Nijinsky's "fear of punishment was always strong."

In a true incident, described by Bronislava and remembered by Nijinsky even as he lapsed into insanity, his father terrified him by throwing him into the water to teach him how to swim. Nijinsky was six or seven years old. His memory of the incident was of almost drowning. It was the inborn strength of his legs that saved him. In general psychoanalytic terms, Nijinsky's leap saved him from ridicule and fear — as it did on the stage.

It could also be argued that the first open change in him occurred from the age of nine when he entered the Imperial Ballet School. Sheltered from harsh realities by his loving mother at home, he immediately had trouble adapting to the outside world. Indeed, from Nijinsky's psychotic point of view, his entire life could subsequently be viewed as a series of punishments: punishment at school for being a prodigy; from Diaghilev, his surrogate father, for creating masterpieces, as a god might challenge his creator; punishment for marrying Romola. According to Romola, Nijinsky's final words as he died in London in 1950 were "Mamasha" — mother.

And Adler's possible cure for schizophrenia? A cure was as much of a mystery to psychiatrists then as it is today. What may work for one patient does not for another: the root causes, as opposed to the symptoms, of schizophrenia still remain unknown. Yet Adler believed that if he had time enough, with Nijinsky under his own roof, he could have helped him. Two episodes of recovery followed Adler's visit. In 1938, Nijinsky was among the first patients to receive insulin shock therapy, a drastic form of shock treatment. It freed him from his hallucinations, eventually enabling Romola to keep him out of hospital, though still under day and night care.

The second improvement came in 1945 when the Russians occupied the small Hungarian town where the Nijinskys lived at the time. Suddenly Nijinsky began to speak to the Russian soldiers and one night he even jumped up and joined their dances. After 34 years separated from Russia and the Russian language, Nijinsky had miraculously entered the real world again.

From then on, for the five years remaining to him, he lived a relatively undisturbed, pleasant life. The meeting with the Russians had actually justified Adler's belief that a "creative contact" and a "cooperative activity not only of a scientific but also of an artistic nature" must be used in an attempted cure of schizophrenia.

It means that Adler might have been able to cure Nijinsky in 1934. But if so, Dr Ansbacher tells me he believes that a cure then would have taken Nijinsky only to where he was in the last five years of his life. In conventional Freudian terms, it would have been a cure transforming his hysterical misery into common unhappiness.

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*Bronislava Nijinska: *Early Memoirs*, edited by Irina Nijinska and Jean Rawlinson, is to be published by Faber and Faber on Monday at £15.

Paul Griffiths
**Music of
the ages**

Irresistible doxies

John Higgins

brother's eyes out, metaphors by the species, in the shape of the swallows of the Antipodes. And if that sounds a little like a Palace of Varieties announcement then it should come as no surprise to find the likes of Mitchell in the cast. Warren James Morris, more bass than baritone, is a shade heavy for Macbeth and his occasional weaknesses with the spoken word are shown up by singers who can handle the vocal demands of the part. Dean (Lockie) Ann Murray (Jenny) and Regina Resnik (Mrs Trapes). But all in all this is a most satisfying set, not least for the contribution of Bonyngie and the National Philharmonic.

It is a pity that the major production of Pouchellini's *Iza Giocanda* in London since before the war, but recordings come along at intervals of roughly a decade. And most of them have had something special to offer. RCA's version, one of the company's best, is based on LP, showed Milanov in superb form. Callas in the Scala version, recently re-

In the face of this competition Decca had to assemble a powerful cast and they have achieved just that. The first act of *Gioconda*, complex and difficult, is surely one of the reasons for its prolonged absence from the London repertoire. Not even Sherrill Milnes, admirably villainous as the spy Barnaba, can get it

William Mann

ph out of t

Tear is fine, with Norman Bailey in the scene where Priam visits Achilles's tent to beg for the body of Hector — Thomas Allen in this cast,

and perfectly ideal as the bully-boy. Bailey, ENO's Wotan, wears Troy's crown with easy authority, and the same nagging doubts. For Tippett the opera is about the difficulty of decision-making: when you have chosen, the outcome may not be what you expected.

The women on this set are ideal. Heather Harper, Felicity Palmer, Yvonne Minton in the Judgment of Paris — who recognizes the compet-

ing goodnesses as likenesses of his mother, sister in law and sweetheart, so chooses to last, and starts the Trojan War. *King Priam* is a great, thrilling opera. It should be in current repertory all the time, but now, at least, we have this splendid digital record to get us ready for the next production — perhaps in Scotland?

rediscovery was the torso of an early opera on Flaubert's *Salammbô*, an oriental subject full of religion and cruelty, on the lines of Bizet's *Pearl Fishers* and

Delibes's *Lakme*. The remains, reverently reconstructed by Zoltan Pesko, were performed on Italian radio, and now appear on records, conducted by him. *Salammbo* is sung in Russian, but mostly by stars, but the point is that a Mussorgsky opera unknown to most people has a star-singer Boris Godunov. Here it is, fascinating, quite well sung (some wobbling), very well played, a substantial fragment of a music-drama that never arrived.

Nikos Kazantzakis's book *Christ Crucified* puts the Oberammergau Passion play into a Greek village, and shows how the saintliness enjoined on the local cast can smoulder. I read it in the summer of 1966, and longed to turn it into an opera, but I had been forestalled by Martinu, whose treatment was first staged in 1961, at Zurich in German, after the composer's death. Text comes from his text in English, following the translation by Jonathan Griffin.

What one also misses on this record, of course, is the visual aspect of the ceremony, but enough of the atmosphere comes through. No doubt thanks to its theme, the work moves forward inexorably and also insistently, the harmoniums trawling slowly through time in the background, the strings and woodwinds coupled sometimes by the piccolos of the centuries, sometimes by the soprano saxophones of the decades, and sometimes — notably for a long virtuosic passage gathering into climax — by the duo of harpsichord and guitar that represent the faster passing years.

Der Jahreslauf was the first scene Stockhausen completed for his week-long mystery *Licht*, of which it will form part of the Tuesday performance. It is also the first segment of the heptalogy to appear on record, and gives one renewed hope for the huge undertaking on which its composer is embarked. Certainly it should be heard by anyone with any concern for music today.

The other records on my list are less essential, but heartening, showing three English composers alike only in the quality and precision of their imaginations. Oliver Knussen's third symphony, heard at the 1979 Proms, is a rushing quarter-hour filled with exhilarating treats for the senses, an exciting display of this composer's virtuosity and of his mid-Atlantic accent: Carter and

Copland figure among the grandfathers. Simon Bainbridge, though an exact contemporary of Knussen (both will be 30 in 1982), thinks in his *Viola Concerto* more slowly, and with more dragging weight, the music looking back at itself as it goes, not bounding into the future. And, as in the *Stockhausen work*, the feel of Japanese music is ex-

The Maw disc presents quite as great a contrast as the Knussen-Bainbridge. On one side comes a song cycle from the Sixties, *The Voice of Love*, which is favoured with beautiful singing by Sarah Walker but needs quite a few suspensions of disbelief. And on the other, the new, the wholly lovely *La vita nuova*, also a discovery of the 1979 Proms, a work of abundant vitality and richness of feeling setting Italian renaissance poetry for soprano (Nan Christie) and ensemble.



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Battling across Iberia/Latest holiday discounts/Striking a blow for skis

Battlefields/Bernard Cornwell In Wellington's footsteps

European battlefields of the two world wars have become part of the tourist trail, complete with museums, guides, memorials and souvenirs. In this article Bernard Cornwell, whose Richard Sharpe novels follow their fictional hero through the battles of the Peninsular War, visited other less regimented, battlefields.

On August 27, 1810, the French army besieging the Portuguese fortress of Almeida fired a few ranging shots. No one who survived the next five minutes would ever forget them.

Almeida's cathedral crypt was being used to store the defenders' gunpowder and, somehow, a French shell set off a chain of explosions that ended in the makeshift magazine. The final explosion destroyed the cathedral, the medieval castle next door, and some 500 houses. The British, commanded by British officers, lost 500 men and was forced to surrender.

The loss of Almeida hardly ranks with Salamanca, Vittoria, or the other great engagements of the Peninsular War, yet I found the town to be the most evocative of all the battle sites I visited last summer.

Almeida never recovered from the explosion. Today's visitor will find the granite blocks of the castle lying where they fell, a graveyard and water tower where once the cathedral stood, the whole hilltop still a wasteland. The town is now a village, shrunken in the middle of its huge defences, by-passed even by the main road to Spain that once made it important.

I was there on business of a sort, engaged in what my tax form will legitimately describe as research. Yet following in Wellington's footsteps also proved a fascinating holiday.

The tourist must insist on starting in Lisbon and taking the battle sites in strict order, but my time was too limited so I swung in a wide circle from Madrid. South-



The remains of the castle and moat at Almeida. The cathedral was where the present water tower stands.

west first, through Talavera, which proved to be the most disappointing battlefield because the most changed, and on to Badajoz in the Estremadura, Spain's poorest province. Already I was becoming aware of the advantage of not choosing an itinerary, but letting history dictate it, because I was seeing things that I had never found in Spain before; the straw huts of nomadic swineherds, the magnificent Roman bridges of the Tagus, and the enforced pleasures of village restaurants where tourists are rare and therefore to be indulged.

I was not looking forward to Badajoz. I had heard it described as gloomy, sour, a town to be avoided, but armed with the knowledge of the fearful events of April 6, 1812, I found it fascinating. The breaches in the forbidding walls, where so many of Wellington's men died, bricked up, and the ditch, where next morning the

survivors saw a heap of steaming dead, is now a municipal garden. The castle where Picton's men performed the impossible in a night of horror is hardly changed, and there was satisfaction in drinking a midnight toast to their memory on the very rampart where they first gained a foothold. No bureaucratic notices here forbidding visitors after five o'clock.

Across the river, uninspired, I found the San Christobal fortress and, except for its barracks, it was in perfect repair. The glacis ditch, bastions and embankments looked as if the last remnants of the French garrison had just marched out to surrender.

From Badajoz I drove north, through the spectacular border country, to Ciudad Rodrigo where a church tower inside the walls still bears the marks of British cannon balls. From there it was a brief journey to a Fuentis d'Ono where Wellington's infantry fought hand to hand against the French in the narrow, unchanged streets, and then I drove 30 minutes north to Almeida, forlorn in its vast walls.

My last stop was Salamanca, the least changed battlefield, where I walked a great sweep of country beneath the hawks where

Wellington destroyed 40,000 Frenchmen in 40 minutes. I spent my days on the battlefield and the evenings in Salamanca's magnificent Great Plaza; one of Spain's architectural marvels.

One companion is absolutely essential — a good book on the Peninsular War, with maps. I would recommend Elizabeth Longford's *Wellington, the Years of the Sword*, Michael Glover's *The Peninsular War* or Jac Weller's *Wellington in the Peninsula*. The battlefields are far more coherent than the fields of the two world wars, and it takes only a little imagination to clothe them in infantry, cavalry and artillery.

In Almeida, Elvas and other places, nothing has changed since Wellington's battalions marched through the great gates, and none of the battlefields have suffered the sacrilege that has destroyed the ridge at Waterloo. Most of the battlefields are marked only by a decaying and remote obelisk which usually can be reached only by a stiff walk (good shoes!), but they are in beautiful countryside, solitary and peaceful, their ghosts long laid to rest.

Spain and Portugal are still the travel bargains of Europe; a man can live like a colonel on a corporal's pay (with the *Michelin Red Guide* as standing orders).

Latest holiday discounts

Silvair is offering £25 off all its January holidays in Majorca and on the Costa del Sol. This means a starting price of £64 for a one-week holiday in a self-catering apartment in Majorca, and £74 for a similar holiday on the Costa del Sol. The £25

discounts apply to one and two-week holidays and to bed and breakfast and half board hotel holidays.

Thomas Cook is offering £30 off its one and two-week self-catering holidays in Lanzarote beginning on

January 28 with flights from Manchester. It is also cutting prices on holidays in Egypt before the end of February. The offer of up to £50 off Nile cruises and £25 off all other holidays in Egypt applies to departures from May 2 to September 30.

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Gran Canary	8 s & b	Tjaerborg	£149	£19	Jan 15, Manchester

*Flights are from Gatwick unless otherwise stated. All discounts are calculated on current brochure prices. *May only be booked directly. Portland 01-388 5111, Tjaerborg 01-499 8676 and 061-236 9511.

Skiing/Harold Evans Equal rights for short skiers

Too many people who have influence on skiing have some kind of sexual hang-up. They regard anything which makes it easier as effeminate. The greatest symbol of all is the length of the ski. There happens to be a revolutionary new ski which will transform the holidays of hundreds and thousands of people if they try it. But the ski happens to be short. And the idea that anybody can ski well on short ski is an assault on the manhood of guides and instructors throughout the Alps, and numerous shopkeepers too.

The ski is an American invention, with the trade name Scorpion, and I wrote favourably about it in *The Sunday Times* in September 1980. About a thousand people took Scorpions to the Alps last winter and they have given the ski a remarkable endorsement. But almost everyone tells the same story. The natives are hostile. Lord Shackleton reported back: "One snag which with a little willpower can be overcome was the dislike — indeed the distaste which amounted to contempt — of certain guides who were inclined to dismiss them. When one of the guides found that I could manage them perfectly well, he dismissed the Scorpions saying that I could ski perfectly well and did not need the Scorpions."

Gina Hathorn and Divina Galica, who can leave most men standing on the slopes, are marketing the Scorpion with engaging conviction and are rightly vexed with the Austrians and Swiss who have been particularly snooty to Scorpion skiers. It is exactly the same pattern, in fact, as in 1974 when Brian Jackson, Mary Ottaway and I wrote *We Learned to Ski* and criticized the practice of putting beginners on a ski as long as a hand raised over the head. There was outrage from various ski establishments (not, it must be said, the Ski Club of Great Britain).

That has all changed now. Compacts are everywhere. But it has to be understood that the Scorpion is not a development of that trend, and it is not a short learning ski similar to that used in the French ski school and the American graduated length schools where after a short time on a 100cm ski the beginner graduates to a conventional 160-190cm. The Scorpion is a broad 106cm ski that is designed for all classes, beginner to ad-

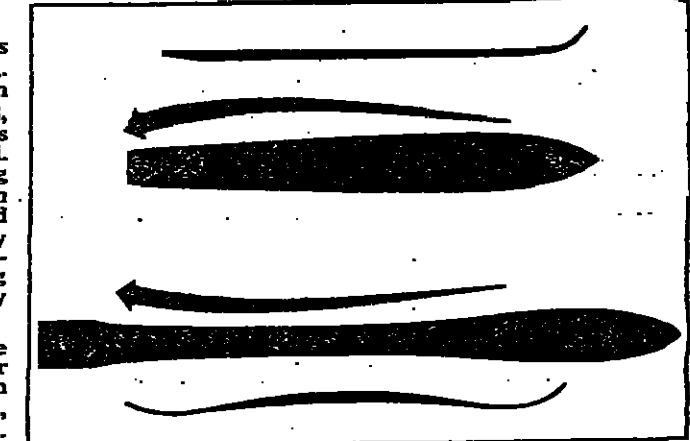
vanced, and all sizes of skier. Side wall and the bottom have positive carving arcs so that the Scorpion turns fast and easily. It does not, it is true, go quite so fast on a schuss and at first you worry when the tips wander. But my experience and most of the testimony I have received is that this can be controlled — Divina Galica leans back in a fast schuss — and the Scorpion bites surprisingly satisfactorily on ice.

The real fun, of course, is in the ease of turning. Alastair Best says he began looking for giant moguls, narrow paths and gun barrels which he'd always turned. Veronica Behr began skiing enjoyably again at 42 after an interval of 25 years. Lord Shackleton says: "In my seventieth year and overweight I found I was skiing better than at any time in my whole life."

I would say that the Scorpion is a must for older people, the shorter length reducing the risk of injury, and for stalled intermediates. But it is not limited to them. Tom Williams, director of Aspen Highlands, Colorado, writes: "Scorpion is the best ski available for probably 70 per cent of all skiers. For intermediates there is no better way to master the moguls. For experts, like myself, the ski opens up new areas of skiing challenge."

I hope more people will try Scorpions this year because I am saddened as I was in the early 70's by the numbers who are discouraged by conventional methods and equipment from enjoying the thrills and beauties of a skiing holiday.

If you want to ski Scorpion Thomas Cook have three Scorpions in each of their 15 resorts. Head office 499 4000. Buying: £79 from Harrods, Lillies, Pindisports, Sun and Snow in London. For favourable or otherwise, of Scorpion stockists elsewhere a leaflet can be skiers.



Built for ease, the positive carving arc of Scorpion skis, shown above in elevation and plan form, is a revolutionary design feature. Conventional skis (lower diagram) have negative arcs.

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Above: Italian Argyle slipover with discreet single row of Lurex in the diamond pattern, £13 (reduced from £25) and French Connection angora and lambswool sweater in white with patterned collar, £18 (£26) both in the Harvey

Nichols' sale, from January 7. Right: Navy wool blazer, all sizes, £99 (£195), Cashmere V-neck sweater, £49 (£95), silk tie, £8 (£15) all in Dunhill's sale from January 8.

Illustration by Susan McKinley

How to beat the bargain race cheats

You have six days to get into training for the major bargain bonanza of the season. The first day of the Harrods sale is no place for the faint-hearted. Regulation, bargain-hunters' battle-dress this season is studded black leather to frighten the competition, climbing boots to put them in where it counts, plus an army surplus coat — this on the principle that anything you have to take off because of the heat will instantly be marked down to twice what you paid for it and borne away in triumph by a seasoned campaigner.

Not, of course, that Harrods have anything but *bona fide* reductions — unlike some unscrupulous shopkeepers who try to get round the trading regulations by putting an article on sale in an outlying branch at an inflated price in order to call it a sales bargain when they bring it back to the main store. The statutory 28 days later.

The bargain offers legislation is extremely confusing from the

point of view of both the shopper and the small trader — in certain sections the shopkeeper is banned from making comparisons with a recommended retail price. These include beds, electrical domestic appliances, consumer electronic appliances, carpets and furniture. In all other categories of goods the trader can say "20% off RRP" — jewelry, for instance, causes a great deal of heartache, with wild claims of huge fictional discounts being made.

The other confusion arises from the ban on vague price comparisons — "our prices so much, prices elsewhere so much more", but traders have got round that one by making claims about "price now, so much, price in future too much." The Director of Fair Trading, Gordon Borrie, has made recommendations to the minister, Sally Oppenheim, for changes in the Bargain Offers Order — meanwhile your own best protection is a knowledge of the going rates.



Above: Spode jug with twist handle in blue and white. Gloucester design, 6in high, £8.10 (£16.25) in Harvey Nichols' sale.

Left: Cut crystal wine glasses by St Louis, wine £17.40 (£26.15), champagne flute £18.65 (£28) in Harrods' sale.

Here is instalment two of the best buys in the remaining major London sales:

Fashion: Kir leather gloves £10.50 (£20), Johnstons cashmere stoles £50 (£75), Dior one size tights 69p (£99), assorted Enny handbags, less 25 per cent, Ann Klein silk shirts £44 (£88), Cacharel classic blouse £21 (£31), Liz Claiborne cord trousers and

velour tops £14 each (£28); all Harvey Nichols; 15 to 50 per cent off all long fitting shoes — 7s to 11s, Crispins, London and Manchester. For women over 5ft 6in, special purchase Woolblendmark double-breasted trench coats in camel, red, black and air force £39.95, three-quarter jacket in cream or black, £33.95, Long Tall Sally, London, Manchester and Bath.

Furnishing fabrics: Printed cottons, discontinued designs (including Triad) £2.95 metre (£5.25), glazed cotton chintz, slightly imperfect, £2.15 metre (£7.70), discontinued wallpapers (including Triad) £1.95 roll (£2.99), Sandersons; 25,000 metres Baker's cotton prints £4 (£8.60-£11.15), moire £6 metre (£12), Harrods; special purchase drapery, cotton velvets and tapestries all at £3.95 yard, Civil Service Stores.

Furniture & carpets: 20 per cent off all orders on Parker Knoll and Bridgecraft, 25 per cent off all orders on Collins & Hayes, half price director's folding chairs £9 (£18) and selected knickerbockers, £8, Sizer, £8.95 (£17.90), Harrods; single headboards £99 (£199) and mirrors £69 (£99) in the decorated pine range, Persian Qum rugs 8ft 6in x 5ft 6in £950 (£1,900) and washed Chiswick rugs 6ft x 3ft £59 (£118) and all other carpets reduced by 15 per cent, all Harvey Nichols.

Household and electrical: Electric underblankets, washable three-year guarantee, single £5.95 (£7.95) Civil Service Store; 20 per cent discount on all David Mellor's own cutlery, which applies also to mail orders posted during the sale period up to January 22 (plus 50p p & p per place set, 30p for each additional place set. Orders over £60 post free). Also 10 per cent off normal prices on all regular ranges — Sabatier, Victorinox, Wusthof, Le Creuset — all from David Mellor, London and Manchester. Metaxa coffee-maker £32 (£19.95) (£25.50) Harvey Nichols; 15 to 20 per cent off lawn mowers, including Flymo Minimo £39.95 (£49.95) and Quiclast Concorde and box £53.95 (£67.45) Harrods.

Linens: 1,000 pairs of boxed pure Irish linen hemstitched sheets four colours, four sizes, half price, £39.50, £112.50, £122.50, £132.50. Harrods; featherdown duvets, double £39 (£66), merino blankets, king size £32.40 (£65.50), Harvey Nichols; hand-loomed cotton bed covers, three sizes, 14 designs and colour ways, single £4.25 (£6), double £5 (£6.75), king £5 (£7.15), fabrics by Nice Irma's; Witney blankets, second, 60 per cent wool, 40 per cent acrylic, single £9.50 (£14.95), Civil Service Store.

Menswear: 290 cashmere overcoats £110 (£220), 165 Aquascutum wool overcoats £85 (£125),

295 Chester Barrie wool suits £150 (£270), 2,000 Pringle and V-McGeorge cashmere crew neck sweaters £49 (£75), Italian for three, all Harrods; three wool suits £119 (£185), three-quarter leather jackets £195 (£295), Christian Dior shirts (£28.50), all Harvey Nichols; wool navy blazers, single or double breasted, £99 (£195), cashmere jackets £149 (£400), cashmere knitwear £49 (£65 to £97) or three for £135, all Dunhill.

Sport: Men and women's Luhta ski jackets £24.95 (£39.95), salopettes £17.95 (£23.95), Luhta ski suits £39.95 (£55.95), Slazenger Challenge rackets £14.50 (£24.50), Sondica squash rackets £3.95 (£7.50), Bronty full and half golf sets for men £115 (£171) and £61 (£86), all Lillywhites; 1,500 dozen Dunlop and Slazenger tennis balls (1981) half price, box of six £2.79 (£5.40), Harrods.

Guide to London sales starting from Monday:

January 4: Descamps, 197 Sloane Street, SW1; Nice Irma's, 46 Goodge Street, W1; Sanderson, 52 Berners Street, W1.
January 5: Civil Service Store, Strand, WC2.
January 7: Lillywhites, Piccadilly, W1; Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1.
January 8: Danish House, 16 Sloane Street, SW1; Fortnum & Mason, Piccadilly, W1; Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1; Laura Ashley shops.
January 11: Loewe, 25 Old Bond Street, W1; The White House, 51-52 New Bond Street, W1.
January 14: Crispins, 5 Chiltern Street, W1; Long Tall Sally, 21 Chiltern Street, W1.
January 16: Gucci, 27 Old Bond Street, W1; David Mellor, 4 Sloane Square, SW1; 26 James Street, Covent Garden and 66 King Street, Manchester.



Capacious picnic basket fitted with three vacuum flasks and plates and cutlery for six, £49.95 from £98 in Harrods' sale starting January 8.

Some people are filled with horror if they are ever required to cook for more than two. Others will have become thoroughly fed up with cooking over Christmas. Here, for hostesses whose New Year resolution is that in future they will leave it to others to cater for their parties, is a guide to some of the best surrogate cooks on hand.

The Cookshop, 16 Cale Street, Chelsea, London, SW3 (01-589 8388). Lavinia Jason-Smith has been running the business for a decade and is now an expert at letting it appear that you have done it all yourself. Providing an old-fashioned, independent service, she will cook whatever you want and price the order individually. There is no price list but, as a price guide, a plate of cocktail canapés is £2 a dozen, steak and kidney pie £1.30 a head, roast duck in black cherry sauce £1.80 a head. Take your own dishes (this really helps to create the illusion you have done it all yourself) and she will despatch them, filled, in a taxi to anywhere in the Greater London area.

Farnley Shop, Farnley Lane, Otley, West Yorkshire, Otley (0943) 46348. Alan Porter and his partner cook in bakers' ovens and "will do whatever you want". They sell frozen meals, casserole dishes ready to heat, and will prepare to order. An 8 lb salmon dressed overall would be about £30, game pie for 12 about £10, and 8 lb sirloin roast £14.50. Deliveries are free in the area

Dinner is a telephone call away

The first Shoparound of the New Year introduces the first of a series of shopping guides to speciality goods and services available in all parts of the country.

We begin with some party catering recommendations tried and tested by The Times consumers affairs editor, Robin Young. Next month we shall offer a guide to getting things mended — from china to chairs. Recommendations from readers who have been satisfied

with local shops and craftsmen will be welcomed. Please include telephone numbers.

We should like this guide to be as comprehensive and as countrywide as possible. If you have ideas about services you would like — or means about goods or services you can no longer find — please write to Shopping Guide, Room 116, The Times, P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ.



between the shops at Farnley and Wetherby.

Gourmet Hostess Foods Ltd, Watford Farm, Stoddard, Lancashire, Lancaster (0524) 65897. Peter Dodd's firm specialises in game, poultry, luxury frozen foods and cooked dishes supplied by mail order. The filling for a freezer, or ready-to-reheat dinner party, can be delivered to your nearest railway station the day after you order it. Reductions for prepaid orders over £50.

Hampers, 69a High Street, Blakey, Norfolk, Cley (0263) 740801. Perhaps the very best of places where Cordon Bleu cooks sell their home produce. Sophie Norwalk's standards are high, and prices surprisingly low. Pizzas and quiches about 30p a slice. A buffet for a children's party can be arranged for as little as £1 a head. Raised pies, meringues and trifles are among the recommended specialities.

Here is Food, 26 The Pavement,

Clapham Common, London SW4. 01-622 6818. Pamela Price, trained Cordon Bleu, runs both shop and outside catering organization, offering a wide variety of home-cooked dishes ready to reheat or to be eaten cold. Smaller parties are catered for on a pick-up-and-take-away basis — chicken dishes around £2.75 a portion, pheasant in apple and calvados £3.75 to £4.50, salmon pie with ginger and currants — "sounds strange but is absolutely delicious", she says — £5. Large parties with every-

thing provided, including cutlery and dishes, are on a distance-no-object basis — Wales is the furthest afield so far. A brochure is available.

Kington Kitchen, Vann Road, Fernhurst, Haslemere, Surrey, Haslemere (0428) 52043. David and Elizabeth Gillespie and their Cordon Bleu cooks are so famous for their leopards for Glyndebourne and Goodwood that they now win catering contracts from the smartest London addresses. They will cater anywhere from the capital to the south coast, up to 50 miles east or west of Haslemere. Basic buffets £5 to £10 a head.

C. Lidgate, 10 Holland Park Avenue, London, W11. 01-727 8243. A family business now in the hands of the fourth generation, old-fashioned and courteous. There are 50 cooked meats in the shop and a full-time team of four cooks upstairs to offer set menus or "anything you like to choose". Mixed meats with salads, £2 a head; beef Wellington for a dinner party, £9-£10. Daily deliveries almost anywhere in London, and they will attend functions up to 100 miles away. They like doing barbecues.

Number 26, 26 Belvedere, Lansdowne, Bath, Avon, Bath (0225) 315177. Mr and Mrs David Bates do not run a catering service, but will cook anything you like to order for collection. Quiches (£2.80 to £3.50 for two pounders), hand-made meat pies, home-made cakes, fruit pies, tarts and sweets are specialties.

Masterly buys

Take a breather from the bargain brouhaha at Harrods by visiting their new Art Reflections department — a collection of reproduction paintings and objects selected from museums, galleries and private collections round the world.

Copies of paintings include The Windmill by Jan (the Elder) Breughel, £135, Poppyfields by Monet, £254, and The Gimcrack by Stubbs (Jockey Club collection), £875. Objects range from a Han Dynasty Ancient Tricorn at

£60 to Kneeling Woman by George Kolbe at £1,330. Many are from the Nelson Rockefeller Collection and include twentieth century sculpture and archaeological pieces dating back to 700 BC.

If it is not your style to have reproductions of anything, you might prefer to look at the collection of original Eskimo sculpture, also in the same Art Reflections department on the fourth floor. Soapstone and whalebone are the materials most often used and the subjects, mostly birds and animals, range from a small walrus at £21 to a 10in mother bear with baby bear, £2,840.



Reproduction of an eighteenth century Japanese curly tail dog from the Nelson Rockefeller collection, £150. In the new Art Reflections department at Harrods.

Gardening/Roy Hay

Lessons from the year of the wet

At the start of a new year it is worth looking back to see what lessons may be learnt from the year which is now over — from a gardener's point of view at least — happily behind us. It was not a kind year to gardeners; it was certainly wetter than average with far more rain during the months May to November than normal. This brought its problems, especially for those on heavy soil and in gardens with poor drainage.

Our garden in the main is fairly well-drained — parts in fact dry out fairly rapidly. But part of one lawn has lain very wet and muddy ever since August and we are going to have to find a way of helping it to stay considerably drier. First we will try taking out cores of soil three or four inches apart and filling the holes with coarse grit.

Memory is particularly unreliable when it comes to remembering specific points about weather. I could have sworn that the one period of about three weeks when we had virtually no rain and had to water the garden was in April or May. But on checking the records I found it was the end of June and early July. We gave the garden two waterings during this period, putting on about a gallon and a half to the square yard each time, and this certainly gave plants, especially vegetables, a fillip, and after a slow start they performed quite well. Slugs and snails were particularly troublesome in

1981 and I expect them to be equally annoying in 1982. I doubt if the recent snow and frost will have done them much harm — certainly the birds were unable to help us in our battle against them while they were covered with their blanket of snow.

I hear from friends in the gardening trade that the demand for frames and cloches was much greater last spring than usual. I think many people found the cold spring of 1980 was very unkind to their plants and they were determined to give them a better start in 1981.

Many people too, I think, have found how valuable even thin plastic sheeting such as they hang over their clothes in the dry-cleaners can give plants valuable protection against winter winds. If wrapped round a wigwam of canes, Plastics have helped us in many ways in our gardens, and sheltering plants from cold or drying winds is one of the most valuable contributions they have made.

One lesson many people learnt the hard way was that snow will not pass through a three-quarter or lin mesh net, either wire or plastic. It lodges on top and there are many collapsed fruit cages around after the recent snowfalls.

Many people are now forced to grow their winter cabbages and other brassicas in a fruit cage to prevent pigeons from clearing the crop. Or they may grow them

in the open and cover them with a net immediately after planting.

British Industrial Fastenings make a very useful net of orange, strong plastic 32ft 10in long, 12ft 6in wide, with a mesh size of about 2 1/2in by 5 1/2in, which may be used to cover a fruit cage or to keep the birds off the fruit in the summer. The snow falls through this large mesh and there is no danger of the cage collapsing. Or, if you have no fruit cage you can push stakes into the ground around your winter brassicas, put an inverted jam jar on top of each stake and then spread the net over the crop, anchoring it down with bent wire pins.

The weight of snow can be quite surprising. After the fall we had in early December had lain for about five days we cut out a one foot square of snow 6in deep and weighed it. To our surprise it weighed 7 1/2lb which shows that a cubic foot could weigh up to 15 1/2lb. No wonder branches break down and shrubs break up to a 24in stem making them ideal for growing in tubs or other

containers to beautify a patio or similar part of a garden. They are offered by W. Blom & Son, Coombe Gardens Nurseries, Levensden, Herts. The range consists of Cotoneaster dammeri "Coral Beauty" with orange berries in autumn, a cytisus (broom) available in lilac, red or yellow, *Euonymus fortunei* "Emerald Gaiety" silver and green foliage, and *E.f.* "Emerald Gold" with golden foliage turning to pink in winter, and a hibiscus, available in blue, red or white.

I always derive a certain amount of satisfaction when I have bought, raised or been given a plant in a pot that can be planted out in the garden when it has done its turn in the house. After pots or bowls of hyacinths or daffodils have finished flowering they should be kept watered and eventually planted out, say in March.

A good buy just now are the large flowered polyanthus plants in pots. The colours, red, pink, yellow or blue, are really very striking. The plants may be put out later in future years lifted and divided after flowering. Birds are already playing havoc with polyanthus and primrose flowers and buds in the garden. One can either put nets over the plants (if feasible) or water them with Stayoff. The application may need repeating several times between now and the full spring flowering period.

Something quite new — at least to me — in ornamental shrubs has come along this year. This is a set of miniature standards shrubs grafted on to a 24in stem making them ideal for growing in tubs or other

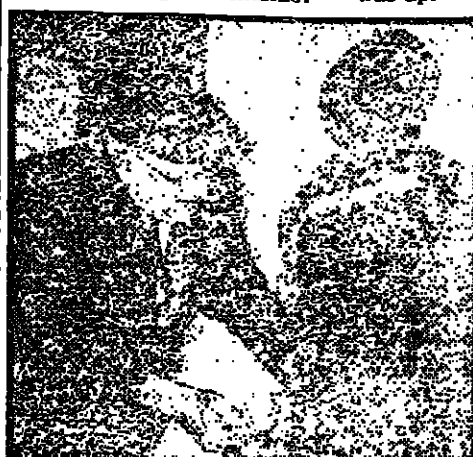
Quiz

Ten news questions on the last days of the Old Year; answers appear in Monday's Diary.

1. What record was claimed by the Scottish village of Crawfordjohn on Christmas day?
2. What was the cricket record broken by Dennis Lillee on December 27th?
3. Who is Leslie Groult?
4. How many murders were there in New York over Christmas?
5. Start struck?
6. How fast could dinosaurs run?
7. What distinguishes Antony Burden?
8. Name the newest sin in Saudi Arabia.
9. The writer of *Lazy River* and *Georgia on My Mind* died on December 27. Name him.
10. Who is Wayne Williams?



Cast your minds back to December 19, when we showed Superman in this pose. Runner up: "Advanced Passenger Training" from Hilary Brown of Oxford; winner: Mr A. Wilkinson, of Newcastle, for "When Lex Luther asked me to play bridge I thought something was up."



Start the New Year with a bottle of our usual fix. If you can. It will go to the writer of the funniest caption to this picture, published last week in *The Times*. Answers, on a postcard please, to: Peter Watson, Diary Quiz, *The Times*, PO Box No 7, Gray's Inn Rd, London WC1X 8EZ, to arrive not later than first post on Thursday.

Chess/Harry Golombek

Swiss versus American

Which is the better tournament system — the Swiss or the American? Had I asked such a question 30 years ago I would have been considered either an iconoclast or incurably frivolous. But today more tournaments are played under the Swiss than the American system, many more in the case of the USA.

The Swiss system, which is about 100 years old, was devised to increase the number of competitors in an event without making it longer.

Its chief virtue is that it has popularized the game. Opponents would say that it is also its chief defect, for according to them, it is not so much a popularization as a vulgarization and producing poorer games of chess.

Supporting this point of view is the fact that the Swiss, who have been among Europe's greatest supporters of chess, promptly abandoned the system once they had invented it. Only now, under the influence of the Anglo-Saxon nations, are they reluctantly adopting it again.

In Britain the opposing schools are evenly balanced though the Swiss seem to be rapidly gaining ground.

To test the rival theories, I compared two recent tournaments, the Regency Masters' International at Ramsgate on the Swiss system and the Sci-Sys International at Brighton, which was all-play-all.

I took the top 10 players at Ramsgate and found that their average Elo rating was 2420. This meant that their tournament was category 7; six more points and it would have been category 8. Such a category represents a tournament of middling strength, nothing to enthuse over but nothing to despise.

The 10 Brighton players had an average Elo rating of 2426, ie category 8; with one point less, it would have been category 7.

So, what little there was to choose was in favour of the all-play-all. I have not yet had time to examine most of the games played but have found more immediately publishable games in the Brighton tournament than at Ramsgate. Here, for example, is the game with which Murray Chandler, first prizewinner at Brighton, won the brilliancy prize over the boy prodigy, Nigel Short. It is what the great nineteenth century Lancashire master, Blackburne, would have called "a little bit of Morphy".

White: M. Chandler Black: N. Short. French Defence.

1 P44 P44
2 P44 P44
3 N42 N42

Unusual; Short's idea, as will be seen on his fifth move, is to exchange off his King's Knight. It is, however, a bad idea; better are

such moves as 3... N-KB3 or 3... P-QB4.

I do not like this method of play since it seems to encourage White's pieces to adopt aggressive positions. Better was 5... KN-Q2 to be followed by 6... P-QB4.

After this Black's King becomes a sitting duck for White's attack. P-QB4 was still the best move and Chandler himself suggested the possibility of 7... P-QN3.

A beautifully aggressive move. The threat is 9 BxP ch, Kx2; 10 N-N5 ch.

After 9... P-QB4 White intended playing 10 B-N1, threatening Q-B2.

It was this attacking idea that earned for Chandler the brilliancy prize. It is aimed at

preventing Black from playing P-KB4. If now 10... P-N3, 11 B-R7 ch, Kx2; 12 Q-R5 ch and White wins.

Chandler points out that this is the most accurate move; if instead 18 N-R7, R-Q1; 19 R-B3, B-R3; 20 QxP ch, K-R1; 21 B-R7 ch, Kx2; 22 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 23 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 24 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 25 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 26 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 27 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 28 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 29 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 30 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 31 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 32 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 33 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 34 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 35 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 36 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 37 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 38 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 39 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 40 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 41 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 42 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 43 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 44 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 45 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 46 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 47 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 48 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 49 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 50 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 51 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 52 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 53 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 54 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 55 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 56 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 57 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 58 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 59 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 60 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 61 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 62 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 63 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 64 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 65 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 66 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 67 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 68 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 69 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 70 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 71 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 72 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 73 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 74 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 75 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 76 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 77 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 78 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 79 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 80 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 81 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 82 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 83 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 84 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 85 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 86 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 87 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 88 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 89 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 90 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 91 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 92 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 93 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 94 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 95 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 96 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 97 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 98 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 99 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 100 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 101 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 102 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 103 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 104 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 105 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 106 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 107 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 108 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 109 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 110 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 111 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 112 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 113 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 114 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 115 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 116 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 117 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 118 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 119 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 120 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 121 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 122 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 123 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 124 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 125 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 126 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 127 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 128 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 129 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 130 Q-R5 ch, Kx2; 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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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experts, page 18

Business News

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for the
children, page 19

How best to invest Penlee's fund

By Paul Maidment

What is the best way of investing the money raised for the dependants of the Penlee lifeboat crew? That is the question being asked in the City, and elsewhere.

The generosity shown through public donations has been overwhelming and the total may top £2m. The Stock Exchange alone has raised £11,000 through a draw.

Here are the proposals of several leading fund managers for an investment strategy, assuming a fund of £2m which is fully available for investment without trustee constraints beyond those which normally apply to charitable trusts. Also, it was assumed that the aim was to maintain capital value while providing a relatively high income for the beneficiaries.

Mr Paddy Linaker, investment director for M & G would keep the proportion of fixed interest investments relatively low and put 20 per cent into British Government securities and the remainder into equities, split three-to-one between British shares and overseas ones.

Favoured overseas markets would be Japan, Singapore and the United States, with Australian natural resources as a small speculative punt. Like other investment managers, he would not be attracted to gold.

Mr Stuart Craig, of Kleinwort Benson, would also split the portfolio 80 per cent equities, 20 per cent fixed income investments, but would include American bonds with his gilts. He would put 10 per cent of the fund equally in Pacific Basin and American shares and the remaining 10 per cent into property unit trusts.

Miss Hilary Root, of Shephards and Associates, would increase the gilts to a third to boost income. To protect capital she would invest a third of the rest in Australian and American equities and the remainder in British shares with recovery potential.

Mr Peter Roots, investment manager of the Midland Bank's trust division, also favours a strong gilt base at least 30 per cent. He would put 45 per cent of the fund in British equities and 15 per cent into overseas equities with a strong bias towards the Far East. The remaining 10 per cent he would invest in property unit trusts. Like others, he feels a fund of £2m is too small to invest directly in property.

Mr Richard Williams of Hill Samuel, would keep between 5 per cent and 10 per cent on fixed deposit and put as much as 40 per cent into gilts with the rest split two-to-one between British and foreign equities. Overseas investment would be through unit trusts.

The common thread is the roughly three-to-one split between equities to provide inflation-beating growth over the years and gilts to provide income.

First insider dealing cases due in courts

By Philip Robinson

The first prosecution in England and Wales under the insider share-dealing law is likely this year. Insider dealing, which involves making a profit on price-sensitive information not generally available, became illegal on June 23 last year.

Only one successful prosecution has been mounted since then. This was in Scotland and involved a guilty plea.

The Department of Trade is looking at three cases where insider dealing — which carries a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment or an unlimited fine — is alleged. Since last summer, following talks between the Stock Exchange and the department, both have stopped naming the companies whose share dealings were being investigated.

Before this, the department named five companies where initial inquiries by the Stock Exchange had indicated a deeper investigation might be justified. Four have been cleared.

The only outstanding case is Cornhill Dressers, now controlled by Mr Asil Nadir. Dealings were investigated after the share price had shot up from 19p to 142p following an announcement by Mr Nadir that he had an option to buy 57 per cent through an off-shore company at 19p a share.

Although there has been no public announcement, it is understood that the Department of Trade has now ceased its interest in the share dealings involving Grand Metropolitan's abortive takeover bid for Coral Leisure, which was subsequently bought by Bass.

Initial Stock Exchange inquiries were passed to the department last January covering the period leading up to September 1, 1980, when Grand Met launched its Coral bid.

The Stock Exchange inquiry into share price movements of engineering group John Brown could also end up with the department. The Stock Exchange began a preliminary investigation early last month after 5 million shares changed hands two days before Brown announced that profits would be well below the level expected at the time of its £25m rights issue in September.

That issue was taken up by only 10 per cent of shareholders — the remainder was left with the underwriters.

The Scottish prosecution took place last August, when Mr John Bryce, formerly the administration partner in Baillie Gifford, an Edinburgh firm of investment managers, was given an absolute discharge after he admitted insider dealing.

He obtained the discharge after depositing £1,400 to compensate the stockbroker through whom he had bought shares. In Waterbottom Trust, for which Baillie Gifford was secretary and investment manager.

Mr Bryce bought the shares on January 5 knowing that the next day Waterbottom was to change its structure to an energy trust. Once the change was announced, the shares rose 40p.

Jeremy Palmer prepares to shut up shop on a 261 year old legend



Haymarket legend turns into a pipe-dream

By David Hewson

The world will never now learn how often the name of Fribourg & Treyer appeared in Sherlock Holmes's highly regarded, though now sadly lost, little monograph on the ashes of 140 different varieties of pipe, cigar and cigarette tobacco. It must content itself with the knowledge that such a distinguished brand name must have featured regularly.

But if the author of this Victorian exercise in criminology had found himself in London's Haymarket — on Thursday he would have chanced upon a new and testing three-pipe problem: who killed this old and most-revered tobaccoist?

The victim died at 34 Haymarket, aged 261 years,

201 of them spent behind the same famous Georgian bow-windowed facade. Among its living mourners will be writers, such as John Arlott, who wrote its history, and Kingsley Amis, royalty, wealthy foreign admirers, and American actor Glenn Ford.

The mourning dead include at least two kings, of France, and Belgium, Beau Brummell, the Prince Regent, Inigo Jones, and the actor David Garrick who frequented the shop before taking to the stage of the Theatre Royal.

Fragments of the Fribourg & Treyer name will survive. Its kinslike filter tips will still sell round the corner at the House of Bewlay, but No

34 itself seems destined to remain empty awaiting a process of "refurbishment", though a listed buildings order ensures its facade must remain.

Suspicion over the company's demise immediately fell upon Imperial Group, the troubled giant which took it over two years ago, and a retiring family property company, Northdale Investments, which owns the freehold and wanted to increase the shop's annual lease from £12,000 a year to £40,000 a year.

Imps, which shuffled the ownership through three different divisions since it took the shop over, says it cannot justify paying the new rent.

D. E. & J. Levy, estate agents, say that Fribourg had the shop on a long and advantageous lease which was now expired. The new rent is in line with what is being charged in the area.

At Fribourg's on Thursday the 10-strong staff dealt with a stream of distressed customers and filed letters of condolence, there was little doubt that Imps was seen as the villain of the piece.

Mr Jeremy Palmer, who joined the shop from school 43 years ago and is now its manager, felt that the rent could have been negotiated to an economic level.

Two of the staff will be taken on at Bewlay — which is also part of Imps — but the rest will be made redundant.

50 pc bonus urged for efficient executives

By Rupert Morris

Performance-related bonuses of up to half of salaries are suggested as incentives for executives in time of recession by a leading firm of management consultants.

A guide by Binder, Hamlyn, Fry & Co draws a distinction between an incentive of up to 10 per cent — which is regarded as extra motivation — and one of between 30 and 50 per cent — which is expected to change behaviour.

The larger incentive is being used increasingly, and should be considered by more companies, according to Mr Duncan Wood, director of industrial relations and manpower services at the consultants.

"If you tell an executive that if he can boost sales above a certain level he can have a percentage, it could make the difference between 95 per cent performance and 100 per cent performance. I think it's a healthy thing that pay should be dependent on performance, and it makes sense during a recession", Mr Wood said.

At most basic level, this sort of incentive has long been used among salesmen, particularly those who operate a piecework system.

The guide argues that this sort of incentive will encourage a higher priority being given to planning and the achievement of targets. Difficult decisions will be taken more quickly and not postponed.

The award of a bonus is also designed to encourage executives who have rejected the comparative security of less responsible jobs and who need greater recognition.

"If an executive is simply paid the same percentage as everyone else, why should he bother to work any harder?" Mr Wood said.

The guide argues that such an approach is valuable when a firm cannot afford a general pay rise but would be able to give extra reward for extra results.

Belgian debts soaring

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Jan 1

The National Bank of Belgium is believed to have spent 310,000 francs (about £4,215m) in 1981 trying to stave off devaluation of the franc in the European Monetary System.

The level of intervention was two-and-a-half times the £123,000m in 1980, which itself was a record compared with the £113,000m spent in 1979.

The high level of intervention was made possible through a sharp increase in Belgium's borrowing abroad. The Belgian treasury is thought to have borrowed more than £220m worth of foreign currency in 1981 much of which found its way to the national bank in return for Belgium francs issued to the state.

Latest figures from the Belgian ministry of finance paint a grim picture of a country moving deeper into debt. Over the first 11 months of last year, public debt jumped by about 25 per cent to Fr2,434,700m (about £33,100m) a burden of around £3,300m for every person in the country.

Particularly pronounced was the rate of increase in foreign debt to Fr355,400m at the end of November from Fr153,500m at the beginning of the year.

The new government is trying to bring the debt under control and is seeking powers to push through economic legislation without lengthy intervention by Parliament.

Euroflame will make big loss

By Our Financial Staff

Euroflame Holdings, the log-burning stoves group which came to the Unlisted Securities Market nine months ago, will make a substantial loss instead of the £300,000 profit promised this year. It will not pay any dividend and has ordered an independent accountants' report into its finances.

The group, whose shares were placed at 30p and rose to 48p at one point, closed on New Year's eve down 6p at 10p. In addition, Mr John Mocatta, a chartered accountant and formerly group managing director of United City Merchants, is joining the group as part-time director.

Last February, Euroflame's first attempt for a USM quote ended when Mr John Viall, the chairman, said he would be disappointed if the group did not make at least £450,000 profit for the year to the end of last month. The quote was delayed because his statement was considered by the Stock Exchange as a profits forecast which had not been included in the formal prospectus of the group.

When the prospectus was re-drafted, Mr Viall expected profits of around £335,000 pre-tax for this year.

But in the latest statement, made with advisers Tring Hall Securities which holds around 53 per cent of the shares, Mr Viall says it is clear the group would not meet the profits forecast for the year and that the results will show a substantial loss. In addition, the company was not in a position to pay either the proposed gross half-time dividend of 1.425p or any final dividend.

Red tape ties up report on UK housing needs

By Baron Phillips

There has been increasing frustration among builders and planners at the Government's inability to make realistic assessments of national housing needs.

But bureaucratic tussles between the committee and local authorities are holding up publication. Against the background of the lowest number of housing starts since the First World War there is clearly a desperate need for a realistic assessment of Britain's housing needs over the next five to 10 years.

The 1977 Green Paper on housing estimated the country would need 500,000 new homes a year by the early 1980s. Present building programmes are falling woefully short of that target.

The Joint Land Requirements Committee from publishing its initial findings on Britain's medium-term housing needs.

Launched last summer, the committee aimed at pinpointing future housing requirements and determining where the land would come from to meet that need. Its preliminary findings were to have been published in the autumn but this was delayed to the end of November, further postponed until the New Year, and now it appears it will not be seen until February.

The committee, consisting of builders and planners, has been hampered by the reluctance of some local authorities to release details of publicly held and owned land suitable for residential development.

New attempt to boost Coal conversion

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

New measures to promote the Government's £20m coal-fired boiler conversion scheme which has had a disastrous response since it was launched last May will be announced within the next few weeks.

The scheme, designed to operate for two years, was aimed at stimulating demand for coal used by industry for steam-raising and to provide much needed orders for recession-hit engineering companies.

But the response to the scheme under which the Department of Industry provides grants of up to 25 per cent for companies switching from oil burning to coal firing, has been extremely disappointing.

Optimistic forecasts made by the National Coal Board to set up to 1,000 companies would be interested in switching from oil to coal have, as yet, remained unfulfilled. Only a small number of grants have been made amounting to £2m

since the scheme was launched. Ministers saw the scheme helping to reduce industry's fuel bill by replacing expensive oil with coal and at the same time enabling the NCB to develop additional sales for its production.

Coal currently has a 40 per cent price advantage over oil and the hope was that the scheme would increase industry's annual coal burning from 10 million to 12 million tonnes in a relatively short period.

By the end of the century ministers believe that the industrial market for coal could reach 50 million tonnes a year. Critics of the scheme, however, claim that the slow response rate reflects the bureaucratic procedures associated with applications and compliance with planning regulations and the impact of the recession on companies which might have gone ahead with conversion schemes.

China set for colony port deal

From Michael Baij, Hongkong, Jan 1

China may soon make its biggest investment yet in capitalism. Hongkong. The target is a £200m extension to the port's bustling container terminal which 10 years ago was a small fishing village.

Amazing growth has made it third after New York and Rotterdam. Such a deal would make sense to both sides and could be necessary in view of the shadow now beginning to be cast by the expiry of Britain's "lease" in 1997. There are few signs of panic as skyscrapers spring up like mushrooms and investment

in industry and property proceeds unabated. Even last year, when the world economy languished, the colony achieved nearly 10 per cent growth. Kwai Chung container terminal, however, would involve costly and time-consuming reclamation on Hongkong's land-starved waterfront and would not be ready before 1985. That leaves just 12 years to 1997 and while everyone knows the terminal must be enlarged to continue Hongkong's dynamic growth as a world trader, this is just the kind of

big fixed asset with long lead time to give backers a chill. Not that the business community expects anything very dramatic to happen in 1997 but it is becoming a talking point and will clearly be the main preoccupation of Sir Edward Youde, the new Governor, when he takes over in the spring.

The people here are encouraged by Peking's investment in Hongkong property in recent years and by Chinese assurances that the interests of investors will be protected.

Peking to send out oil invitations

By Our Industrial Staff

British Petroleum is among 48 companies expecting any day now to receive invitations from Peking to apply for exploration and development rights in China's offshore oil fields — rated the most promising unexplored area in the world.

The estimate of recoverable reserves from the area already explored is 30,000

million barrels. This is well in excess of even the most optimistic forecast for the United Kingdom Continental Shelf, and exploration in the South China Sea is still at an early stage.

More than £110m has been spent on seismic exploration in the China Sea, and the official Xinhua news agency said on Thursday that pre-

paratory work was complete.

A law on taxing the income of foreign companies took effect yesterday and will allow companies to claim back from their own governments any tax paid in China.

Details of the tax regulations have not yet been published, and it is far from clear what sort of deal the oil companies will be offered.

Sukuzi call to West

Mr Zenko Sukuzi, the Japanese Prime Minister, said in Tokyo he would make every effort to remove trade friction with the West and expected reciprocal action by Western nations to boost their own competitiveness.

A council of economic ministers will later this month decide on details of Mr Sukuzi's earlier proposals to advance import tariff cuts and remove non-tariff barriers, he told a New Year news conference.

Mr Sukuzi said after a cabinet reshuffle last month that he planned to accelerate by two years the 1979 Tokyo Round tariff reductions for fiscal 1983 and 1984 and implement them with those for fiscal 1982, starting next April.

Stock Markets

FT Index 530.4 up 1.6
FT Gilt 62.37 up 0.01
Bargains 11,422

Sterling

\$1.9100 down 30 ps
Index 90.9 unchanged
New York: \$1.910

Dollar

Index 106.9 down 0.3
DM 2.2585

Gold

\$400 up \$1.75
New York: \$412.70

Money

3mth sterling 15 1/2-15 3/4
3mth Euro \$13 1/2-13 3/4
3mth Euro \$14 1/2-14 3/4

BUSINESS BRIEFING



Outsider in Lufthansa succession battle

Dr Herbert Culmann (left), the chairman of the five-man executive board which runs Lufthansa, the West German airline, is expected to retire in 1983, and the choice of his successor could fall on an outsider, Herr Reinhard Hesselbach, the Under Secretary of State for Transport in the Federal Government (writes Arthur Reed).

The succession is being eagerly watched by German political circles and the airline industry throughout the world.

Dr Culmann favours another member of the airline's board, Herr Reinhard Hesselbach, the chairman of the airline's supervisory board (which represents the shareholders), while the executive board runs the airline. Dr Hesselbach is also an old trade unionist, and the feeling within the airline is that there is an element of solidarity in the promotion of Herr Reinhard. The plan being canvassed is for Herr Reinhard to become a member of the Lufthansa executive board early in 1982

produced considerable fluttering within the Lufthansa dovetail, including several letters of protest from the airline's workers, among them, middle management, pilots, and cabin attendants.

Herr Reinhard is an efficient, able civil servant in his late 40's who is renowned for a lack of personality and for behaviour which sometimes borders on the arrogant.

With a trade union background he is reputed to be the candidate of Dr Walter Hesselbach, the chairman of the airline's supervisory board (which represents the shareholders), while the executive board runs the airline.

Dr Hesselbach is also an old trade unionist, and the feeling within the airline is that there is an element of solidarity in the promotion of Herr Reinhard. The plan being canvassed is for Herr Reinhard to become a member of the Lufthansa executive board early in 1982

ICL eyes recovery

International Computers (ICL) is forecasting a strengthened recovery despite continued operating losses through the first half of the current financial year.

The full effect of cost-savings arising from redundancies and other rationalisation measures cannot be felt before the end of the first half, Mr Christopher Laidlaw, ICL chairman says.

Writing in the annual report, he says: "During this period we must expect to continue operating at a loss, largely attributable to the first-quarter. Beyond that, ICL's recovery will be strengthened by the successful implementation of the new product and marketing strategies, as well as by any upturn in the external environment."

While orders in October and November were higher than in the previous corresponding period, collaboration arrangements concluded to date are unlikely to have a significant effect on revenue until 1982-83.

Airports group new member

Mr Patrick Shovelton, 62, a former Under-Secretary at the Department of Trade who was chiefly responsible for the successful negotiations three years ago to open up air routes between Britain and the United States, has been appointed a part-time member of the British Airports Authority.

Petroleum demand cut

Demand for petroleum products in the United Kingdom fell by 5.3 million tonnes, or 9.3 per cent, in the first nine months of 1981 compared with the same period in 1980. At 52,275,947 tonnes, deliveries reached the lowest level since 1965.

Deliveries of fuel oil fell by 21.5 per cent, gas and diesel oil by nearly 9 per cent, while natural gas production fell by 1.9 per cent to 8,925 million therms.

Mobil setback on Marathon

Mobil Corp failed yesterday to win a court order blocking United States Steel Corp from buying Marathon Oil's stock next week.

Mobil was first rebuffed by a Federal district judge in Cleveland and then took its case to the 6th United States Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati. But the appeals court did not act before closing for the new year's holiday.

Union reforms plan backed

Endorsement for the Government's proposals for industrial relations reform has come from the British Institute of Management in a letter to Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment.

The institute is hoping to meet Mr Tebbit within the next few weeks.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Consumer rights

Avoiding pitfalls at the sales

For shoppers this is the period of peak stress, as the January sales throw thousands into a state of indecision. It is only a matter of whether one should rush to join the bullfight in the china shop before queuing for whatever jumble might be left on the fashion room floor. It is also, when you have actually laid hands on something you might have a use for, whether it will really save a few pounds or just another boo-boo.

This glossary cannot answer that question, but it may help to point some of the pitfalls, or offer reassurance about your rights.

Sale — The term implies that prices have been reduced, but is otherwise meaningless. Some sales are cleverly timed and in others the prices are just the same as were being charged before the sale began.

Westminster City Council have just failed with a prosecution against an Oxford Street "closing down" sale in which the shop's prices had not been reduced.

Today, more than a year after the evidence was collected and the charges laid, the shop is still trading, and "closing down".

Sale price — It follows that tickets which simply show a sale price give no guarantee that the goods are either cheap or reduced. A sale price, without further information, is just a price, though legally it should be lower than what was charged before.

Previous price — You can always ask what it was, if it is not shown. But beware. It need not mean very much. Under the Trade Descriptions Act 1968 the previous price should be one at which the goods were on offer for at least 28 consecutive days in the previous six months.

But it is perfectly legal for shops to display notices saying that the previous prices they quote have not necessarily been charged so long, or at all. Such simple disclaimers are now widely used, even by the best shops.

Under the Price Marking (Bargain Offers) Order 1979 any previous price quoted

must have been charged at least once. The trouble with this is that no trading standards officer has yet found a way of proving that it has not been, so the provision is unenforceable.

Special price — Another meaningless, though potentially illegal, phrase. Treat it as meaning only "price".

Special purchase — Fair warning that the goods really are not reduced, but may be manufacturers' surpluses, rejects, or cheaper lines commissioned to go into the sale. They may still be good value.

Seconds — Goods with minor defects. Ask to have the faults pointed out if they are not apparent. Inspect any seconds sold in boxes, because you may be assumed to know about the defects after they have been drawn to your attention, and they may be more serious than you think.

Even goods sold as sub-standard must still be good enough to use. You cannot complain if an electric kettle sold as a second has a scratch, but you can if it does not boil water.

Shop-soiled — Similarly, shop-soiled goods may be grubby, and it is your risk whether the stains come out or not, but they should at least withstand cleaning in accordance with the instructions. If they shrink or fall apart you can demand your money back.

Refunds — You have the same rights under the Sale of Goods Act whether you buy in a sale or at other times, though you cannot expect seconds to be perfect, or complain about faults which you could have been expected to notice yourself.

Notices saying "No refunds on sale purchases", though still to be seen, are not only void under the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act 1973, but also criminal under the Consumer Transactions (Restrictions on Statements) Order 1976.

No law can protect the bargain hunter from his own avarice or acquisitiveness.

Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Investment

Crystal ball gazing by the experts

"If I could forecast interest rates, I'd be enjoying my villa in the south of France", said the man from the Building Societies' Association when asked this week about the likely trend of mortgage interest rates during 1982. It may be an unhelpful answer but it is one that will be frustratingly familiar to housebuyers and investors who have found their finances dictated by spiralling interest rates in the past 12 months.

But as the New Year gets into stride it is more fruitful to pinpoint the financial direction 1982 will take, through the eyes of the experts.

Alan Cumming, chief general manager of the Woolwich, is hoping for a lower mortgage interest rate in 1982 but concedes this is unlikely before May. In any event, the depressed state of the economy and uncertainties over employment look like conspiring to create another sluggish year for the housing market.

The BSA reckons average house prices in 1982 will be no more than 5 per cent, representing a real decline in the light of double figure inflation.

What looks far from sluggish is the outlook for the unit trust industry. Nineteen eighty-one has been a boom year with net new investment more than five times up on the previous year. According to Money Management and Planned Savings Magazine, performance honours for the 450 or so funds look certain to be won by Far East investing funds.

Interestingly, though, Audrey Head, who runs Hill Samuel's unit trusts, picks their new European fund to do best in 1982. This unfashionable view is based on sterling's over-valued strength against the Deutsche mark and Swiss franc, and also what she clearly regards as exciting investment opportunities in Norway where 25 per cent of the £8m fund has already been invested.

Audrey Head's second choice from the Hill Samuel stable is the Gilt fund. "Gilt", she says, "are ridiculously cheap because interest rates will fall although we've been saying that for a long time".

Oyer at Framlington, chairman Bill Stuttford takes a bullish view of the United States market where, he says, "shares are much cheaper than in the United Kingdom" and should be bought while recession still grips the economy. Stuttford goes for Framlington's International Growth fund for capital appreciation but says he would not write off the United Kingdom market.

Hope for the United Kingdom economy is also held out by Graham Mann, private client partner of stockbrokers Greaveson Grant. He says the nadir has been reached, and foresees investment opportunities among United Kingdom companies which have undergone a big slimming down operation.

According to Mann, gilts presently represent nothing more than a parking place for money which has not yet found a home in equity investments. Overseas, he looks to Japan, the United States and, slightly longer term, Australia whose natural resources will be in great demand once the recession shows real signs of ending. Except for the very wealthy, he recommends overseas investment through the specialist unit trust route.

Ian Maxwell Scott of Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee, stockbrokers, is another expert whose crystal ball reveals overseas opportunities in 1982. Outside Europe, which he regards as limited, he too goes for Japan, the United



Alan Cumming



Audrey Head



Bill Stuttford



Ian Maxwell Scott

States and Australia. So it looks very much as if 1982 will witness an acceleration of the trend towards overseas investment by United Kingdom residents.

Rothschild's investment director Richard Katz says quite firmly that "1982 is a year to be out of sterling". In the 16 months since launch, Rothschild's currency fund has attracted more than £100m from private individuals wanting to invest in currencies. Unless you place more than £100,000 in the Rothschild Old Court fund, you make your own decisions on which of the 16 currencies you want to invest in, but Richard Katz's strong tip for 1982 is the Deutsche mark. It is worth pointing out that you cannot invest in yen through the Rothschild fund.

The Japanese authorities have put up obstacles to prevent that big gap being filled.

With all this talk of investing in currencies and overseas equities, what is the risk of a re-introduction of

exchange controls? Back to Graham Mann who reckons that is the last thing the present government wants. However, he concedes that if a re-election sentiment were to favour the return of a left-wing administration, it might become necessary to bring back controls to prevent a run on the pound. Even so, he points out that the dollar premium was something people lived with until 1979 and could do so again.

Apart from equities and currencies, you might be contemplating putting some money into commodities in anticipation of a boom in raw material prices as the world eases out of recession.

John Tillotson, chairman of Tillotson Commodities, points out that investors on the scent of a higher return than can be achieved through say, a building society have to be prepared to take bigger risks. So high risk/high reward is the name of the game here.

Tillotson's are currently bullish on all base metals

except tin. They also foresee some upside potential in coffee, but little scope for rises in cocoa and grains. If you do invest in commodities, be sure to ask your adviser searching questions about separation of his own and clients' funds. Co-mingling of monies can leave investors with very badly burned fingers, as the recent failure of M. L. Duxford has shown.

For the smaller investor, commodity investment can be made through a specialist United Kingdom unit trust (poor performers in 1981) or more speculatively, through one of the Channel Islands or Isle of Man funds.

Finally do not be tempted into the exotic realms of currencies, commodities and overseas equities — before checking out the more plain Jane possibilities such as the "something for everyone" range of National Savings investments.

Peter Garland

In brief

Unit trusts competition next Saturday

Fancy yourself as something of a dab hand at investment? Next week we launch The Times Unit Trust Competition in conjunction with BBC 2 Television's Money Programme, when you will have the opportunity to pit your wits against the experts and if you win, appear on television.

Competitors will be invited to pick three unit trusts which they believe will perform best in 1982. There will be a prize-winners lunch when the winners will meet the experts and receive their award. The experts taking part are five unit trust consultants who earn their living by advising investors which unit trusts to buy — and when to sell them.

Full details, entry form, and last year's unit trust performance tables will be published in The Times next Saturday, January 9, and on BBC 2 television's Money Programme which goes out at 6.30 pm on Sunday, January 10.

Nationwide

Yet another building society reports virtually static house prices during 1981. Nationwide's latest bulletin shows that house prices overall are now only 1 per cent higher than a year ago. During 1981 house prices rose slightly in the first two quarters, remained steady in the third, before falling back in the fourth quarter. Prices fell on average by 2 per cent in the last three months of 1981.

Bank charges

NatWest Bank is putting up charges from January 1 on personal current accounts. Customers who maintain a minimum credit balance of £50 will continue to receive free banking. But those who allow their balance to fall below this threshold will be charged 20p for debit items such as cash withdrawals and only 15p in the past. But the charge for "automated items" — direct debits, standing orders and cash dispenser transactions will remain at 12p. The national interest rate paid on current account balances is to be reduced by 0.5 per cent from 12 per cent to 11.5 per cent for those who are not entitled to free banking.

Reassurance
The British Insurance Association offers reassurance to householders with household insurance policies. "Most household insurance cover damage by flood and storm (although the policyholder may have to pay the first £15 of buildings claims). Where spoilage of food in domestic freezers caused by accidental power failure has occurred, BIA advises householders to check if their contents policy covers this risk. Comprehensive motor policies cover flood and storm damage.

"To help speed up claims handling, policyholders who have suffered damage in recent winter weather should contact their insurance company, broker or agent as soon as reasonably possible," says the BIA. "Temporary measures which are urgently necessary to protect the insured property from further damage may be carried out straight away — a careful record should be kept of these expenses."

VIP Plan
A pension scheme for key employees and directors is being launched by Guardian Royal Exchange. Called the VIP Plan (Versatile Individual Pensions), employers will have complete freedom to choose which employees to include and what retirement and death-in-service benefits to provide for each.

The benefits can be expressed either as specific amounts of pension or as a cash fund to be used to buy benefits. Different retirement dates, with and without profit benefits, contributory and non-contributory arrangements and differing renewal dates can all be accommodated in the same plan.

UNIT TRUST PERFORMANCE TABLE
Current Value of £100 invested over 12 months to December 31, 1981

Trust	Value
1. Hill Samuel Far East	£166.80
2. Guinness Tokyo	£164.30
3. Athlone Eastern & Internat	£143.80
4. Hill Samuel Japan	£139.30
5. Henderson Japan	£138.90
6. Guinness Pacific	£136.80
7. T. Japan and General	£136.10
8. Chieftain Far Eastern	£134.80
9. Midland Dragon Japan	£134.80
10. Scottish Renaissance	£134.80

Source: Planned Savings Magazine

Adrienne Gleeson

DON'T TRAP YOUR CAPITAL



A GENUINE DILEMMA

The start of a New Year is a good time to think about your investment portfolio. What to buy, when to sell and where to look for new fresh opportunities. If you decide upon a unit trust, then the choice facing you is huge. Unit trusts now cover most of the world's stock markets and many different investment sectors. But to rely solely on stock markets could also be a trap. Nowadays currency considerations are frequently as important as stock market considerations. For example, the generally good performance recently of the Eastern fund, over much, in many cases, to the appreciation of the Yen as it does to the Japanese stock market. The decision is not easy.

AN ALTERNATIVE

There is another way it offers you a complete portfolio in itself, which is selected, organised and continuously managed by expert full time professionals. Chieftain International Trust.

OFFER OF UNITS

The aim of Chieftain International is to achieve long term capital growth from investment opportunities wherever in the world they occur. No other international fund has been more successful over the last two years. £1000 invested on 1st December 1979 now stands at £1794. Units are on offer at 54p.

MARKET CONCENTRATION

Chieftain International concentrates mainly on the sectors and countries the managers favour rather than spreading widely and thinly across too broad a range. It means that when conditions change this fund can and does move quickly and positively. An example of this was seen in 1980 when over 65 per cent of the fund was invested in Australia.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. Until 31st January 1982 Chieftain International units will be available at a fixed price of 54p each to give an estimated current growth yield of 1.40% p.a. Thereafter units can be bought or sold at the daily calculated offer and bid prices. The offer will close if the underlying price of units should differ from the fixed price by more than 2 1/2%.



CHIEFTAIN

Chieftain Trust Managers
Chieftain House, 11 New Street, London EC2M 4TP Tel. 01 283 3933

APPLICATION FORM

To Chieftain Trust Managers Limited, Chieftain House, 11 New Street London EC2M 4TP
I/We would like to buy Chieftain International Trust units to the value of £1,000 at 54p each (Minimum £500).
A statement payable to Chieftain Trust Managers Limited is enclosed.
I/We declare that I am/are over 18.
Tick box ☐ if you want maximum growth by re-investment of net income.
☐ if you want to invest monthly.
☐ if you would like details of our Share Exchange Plan.

Surname Mr/Ms/Mrs

First Name(s) in full

Address

Signature

TT

A note explaining all terms and conditions of the offer is enclosed. Please read it carefully. Please return this form to Chieftain Trust Managers Limited, Chieftain House, 11 New Street, London EC2M 4TP.

In October and November almost all of this was watched as Japan, Morocco when world markets fell last September the fund was already 20 per cent in cash had under 10 per cent in Hong Kong and Australia and nothing in Singapore, the worst affected markets. The managers have recently begun to move back into Australia.

ACTIVE POLICY

Currently the portfolio is heavily weighted towards Japan (33%) and Australia (36%). With no exchange control and no capital gains tax within the trust it is far easier and much more inexpensive for Chieftain's managers to follow this highly active investment policy than it would be for any individual.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

This article of management has provided a powerful performance record. Since Chieftain International was launched in November 1976 the offer price of units has risen by 116% by comparison the FT Ordinary Share Index has risen by 70% and, in sterling terms, the Tokyo New Stock Exchange Index is up by 89% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average down by 21%.

INTO THE FUTURE

With no restrictive commitment to any sector or any market anywhere in the world, Chieftain International is well placed to continue to produce long term growth year after year. It will change as market conditions change. This trust, in effect, offers you a complete discretionary managed portfolio service. It means that you can let Chieftain do the worrying for you.

ACTION NOW

If long term growth is your investment goal and you like the proven performance of Chieftain then complete this application form and relax.

Mrs June Darling and her daughter Leah who had an unfortunate experience.

Insurance

Don't cut holiday cover

An estimated seven million people are expected to take a package holiday abroad in 1982 compared with just over six million in 1981 and the tour firms are gearing up accordingly.

Thomson's direct selling subsidiary, Portland Holidays, has, for example, planned an 80 per cent increase in capacity over 1981 total of 70,000 holidays — so there should be some bargains around.

January is traditionally the time for planning summer holidays and with the average holiday abroad costing £1,000 or more, it is worth spending some time to buy wisely.

There is however one expense on which you cannot afford to economise — insurance. Last year the British Insurance Association says that some 100,000 claims, worth a total of £13.5m were made under "loss of deposit" cover alone.

And if this hasn't convinced you, bear in mind the experience of Mrs June Darling and her daughter Leah, whose holiday turned into a nightmare, redeemed only by the fact that they had proper holiday insurance.

Mrs Darling, her husband Brian, son Tom and 17-year-old daughter Leah flew to Athens last August with Budget Tours for a two-week holiday at the Alexander Beach Hotel.

Three days later Leah was entering a lift which ran from the beach to the hotel when someone apparently

pressed the call button at the hotel end. She was trapped in a 6 inch gap between the lift and the shaft and was dragged several feet before the lift rose, clear of the landing stage and she fell 15 feet into a pit.

The outcome was that Leah spent five days in hospital in Salonika having received only emergency treatment, before she was eventually flown home by air ambulance.

She had suffered a fractured pelvis — broken in three places — internal bruising and bleeding, massive abrasions to the hips, thighs and shoulders. Leah is now almost fully recovered, clearly everybody's first concern. Without insurance, however, the family would now be facing huge legal difficulties on top of the trauma of the accident.

The Darlings fortunately had bought ABTA's Easurise holiday insurance which gave them up to £50,000 per person medical expenses cover — enough to cover their costs. ABTA has recently doubled this to £100,000 for the United States and Canada.

One factor to emerge from the Darlings' experience is the importance of a 24-hour emergency line to the insurer. "The insurance people were marvellous," Mrs Darling says. "They confirmed that everything would be covered". Her only criticism was that they hadn't mentioned "magic words" air

"The important thing is to have the certificate of insurance with you — preferably stapled in your passport," she recommends, and make sure you insist on a company that has an emergency phone number.

The standard holiday insurance package provides £50,000 medical expenses insurance, cancellation cover of around £750, personal effects cover of £500 to £750, personal accident benefit of £5,000 and personal liability cover of £250,000.

NatWest charges £7.50 for 8-17 days cover in Europe, £15 worldwide, and policies can be bought in any of the bank's branches. Members of BUPA can buy worldwide medical expenses cover only of £50,000 for 16 days for £14.60 with general holiday insurance as an optional extra.

Insurance broker J. Perry offers a variety of schemes, all with the benefit of Perry International Rescue Service, a 24-hour emergency facility. And Europ Assistance has perhaps the longest experience in emergency services with a 24-hour manned telephone line and ambulances on instant call.

The Pru has recently entered the market offering a new Travelwise policy developed from a successful scheme run for Thomas Cook. For standard benefits the charge is £8 for 17 days cover in Europe, £14 worldwide.

Lorna Bourke

Unit trusts

Eastern Promise paid off for unit trust investors last year. Trusts invested in the Far East in general, and in Japan in particular, produced by far the best performances of 1981; and Hill Samuel's Far East Fund, which was only launched in January 1980, celebrates its first birthday by putting up the best performance of all.

But it wasn't a vintage year for any unit trust investors. Even allowing for reinvested income, the money invested in the Hill Samuel fund was worth 56.8 per cent more at

the end of the year than it had been at the beginning; and none of the other leaders produced profits of more than 45 per cent.

But if the 100 per cent-plus gains of previous years were missing, so were the disasters. Units in the worst performer of 1981, M. & G's Australasian fund, were worth 30 per cent less at the end of the year than they had been at the beginning; and holders in four fifths of all trusts ended up at break-even (before allowing for the 12 per cent increase in the RPI) or better.

While it may not be much consolation to the losers looking back, their trusts are among the most promising candidates for the top spots in 1982. This is because the bottom twenty performers, with three exceptions, are all commodity, energy or gold related trusts; and given either a revival of the world economy or a deterioration of the political situation, they could all boom this year.

Roll wisdom, which says that last year's worst performers might well be this year's best, was proved wrong in the course of 1981, but that could be the exception that proves the rule.

Enforced rest no help to England

you - signs on a (pink) note

[illegible]

Gloucester's triumph more emphatic than it appears

[illegible]

By Peter Bills
splendid crowds in times gone by. Yesterday's New Year fixture was lineouts were indecisive but the hardy Dawson and Pattinson pre- Ubee dropped another go seven minutes from the end.

Blackheath, who have scored some notable victories this season, have been the only team in the Coventry and North, seemed to be making heavy weather of affairs as Saracens continued to pick up the scraps. Blackheath's captain, Hardy, had suffered difficulties at scrum half from some untoward ailment, and he was unable to play. But once Uvedale started in the position, his partner, Blackheath's sort was troubled. Uvedale was dropped a splendid try, and he was out of the half-time, seizing Bartley's wingers and turning him over before the flying half over the bar and the scrum again. Blackheath's Saracens took their early advantage and a Harrowec

Rugby League

Hull derby game likely to be postponed

By Keith Macklin

Gloom shrouded Rumburster yesterday as thickly as freezing fog. The Hull secretary Peter Deane was optimistic about the chances for the derby game with Hull Kingston Rovers due to be played today.

He said there were eight degrees of frost in the ground, and that would be remarkable there to make the players play. However, both clubs are anxious to get the fixture played to avoid further competition later in the season, and if this morning's inspection wipes out the game it will mean the derby being the all-diection crowd of 18,000.

Thousands of play tomorrow are becoming for grounds west of the

Kelly sets up

By Keith Macklin

Ont on the pitches yesterday, ghostly figures flitted in and out of the mist. On the terrace spectators shivered and shivered red-eyed at the barely discernable outlines.

Warrington beat Wigan 2-0 as a Hellenic detour. Wigan 12-10, but the scores and the scorers had to be carefully noted. The game was a fog-broudered matches which were started and finished largely through the courage and persistence of clubs, players and referees.

After nearly a month without a game, Warrington seemed determined to stage a traditional holiday fixture with Wigan, and 3,569 brave souls turned out to witness it. Wigan lost. They saw their front row forward, in the

...and, and if the tempera-
ture is not too high, it is
a possibility of a name at Leigh,
where Follans are the visitors.
The weather is not too high,
the team are cursing the spiteful-
ness of the weather. The thaw
is not too high, the weather is
and the sudden descent of frost
and freezing fog yesterday took
the team by surprise.
Leads will hope to go ahead
with their name at Headingley
and the weather is not too high,
the team are cursing the spiteful-
ness of the weather. The thaw
is not too high, the weather is
and the sudden descent of frost
and freezing fog yesterday took
the team by surprise.

Faces to follow in 1982: an Argentine and three Englishmen
Maradona will reign in Spain

By Norman Fox

Cesar Menotti, the lanky, chain-smoking manager of the World Cup holders, Argentina, recently invited upon himself the wrath of that nation by dropping Diego Maradona, the young man who in Spain may justify the title "the best player in the world."

Menotti often braves unpopular. In 1978, he kept Maradona out of the World Cup team, saying the 17-year-old was not ready, even though the youngster had been an international player for a year.

Toddy Maradona was no bigger than he was at 16, still a stocky 5'8 1/2 in., but he can look after himself. He has been called "El Pibe" because of his size and because of his close relationship with the external pressure.

He is one of the most debated questions in the world of football.

His recent "dropping" from the national team was, in fact, his choice rather than that of Menotti. It was a sign of his maturity and of his understanding of football politics, involving a complicated loan transfer from Argentina's Juniors to Barcelona's youth team for \$200,000.

In June, he asked for a break from squad training. Menotti omitted him from the squad for the games against Czechoslovakia and Poland. The team played poorly and the crowd screamed for his head.

Argentina's last tour of Europe was a disappointment for the fans because of the extraordinary skills of this attack-minded player, who showed up as a surprise. He had been called "the little lion" three opponents in three years. Yet in his early teens he was already being called "the lion" by the press.

He is the son of a highway worker of Italian descent, who lives in the suburbs of Buenos Aires.

After first appealing for the league team at 16, he soon became the most popular player in the country, attracting offers of more than £1m from Europe, especially from Barcelona, who have been pursuing him almost

Argentinean juniors were said to pay him £150,000 a year.

His young life has been full of complications. He wanted compensation for not going to Barcelona, and the Argentine FA were involved in raising money when he moved to Boca Juniors. Then the situation was further complicated by rumours that when he asked to be left out of the national squad the real reason was that some omitted he could be transferred to Europe. No

allowed to leave the country after the World Cup.

Whatever the reason, Maradona's present disagreement with the national organisation has led to his club form being reported as excellent, so Argentina can hope that his pleasurable career will probably be the 1978 side that he will graced and leave and Europe could gain outstanding footballer of the decade.



Bryan Robson: versatile **Alan Devonshire: skil**

By Stuart Jones Thijssen, Ipswich's lone flaw has been their lack of strength in Crystal Palace took a bribe at the scrawny youngster

Thijssen, Ipswich's lone flaw has been their lack of strength in Crystal Palace took a bri at the scrawny youngsters

April, a weakness that cost them two trophies six months ago.

An 18-year-old made his bow in the unlikely surroundings of the New York Coliseum in the Spring of 1975. It was a meaningless second division game at York City but West Bromwich Albion were set to promote.

The youngster was destined in little over six years to become the most expensive footballer that Chelsea is ever likely to buy.

Born in Chester-le-Street, Brian Robson played for his native Durham County, was an England Schools cricketer and won a Youth Cup developing with West Bromwich as an apprentice. After breaking a leg three times, he blossomed into a middle field player that may not have caught the eye of those who are so highly enough by his former manager, Ron Atkinson, who brought him to Manchester United for a record fee of £1 million last October, and by his coach and manager, Ron Greenwood.

"The only player to be selected for all eight of England's World Cup qualifying matches," Robson will gain international repute as one of the world's most versatile performers to defeat teams who averages more than a goal in every five games, he is likely to play in every position in the category, where only one English outfield player, Kevin Keegan, belongs at present.

He decided that he must make his mark in the first team of the club he had joined, Arsenal, after Devonshire came a part-time player in Southall in the Isthmian and his career, however, was by no means smooth sailing. A West United scout changed all that.

Devonshire was named in Aston Villa's remarkable FA Cup run to the quarter-finals, and, within a month, was in the first team in a League match against Queen's Park Rangers. He took a goal, Robson, his explosive speed, small-blinding trickery of the side of midfield are deemed to be appreciated, especially by the opposition.

After West Ham were seen in 1976, his abilities were seen in the second division and in the more experienced players of the first. "We were never been no more than stylish in began to win honours." In Club in 1980 and the second season, championship was won which also elected him of the League Cup.

Devonshire, himself, being won honours as well. In 1980, he was picked for England's first two matches. With Brooking likely to position for England in the next few weeks, it is a good recognition as Robson has won the World Cup. He wishes though.

Buckley open

Walsall's former player-manager Alan Buckley has been placed on the transfer list at his own request and has given his resignation to the club's management. Neil Martin will now take full control as manager.

Buckley, aged 50, had Walsall on a temporary basis to lead the division two years ago as player-manager. Martin joined him as joint manager at the start of this season and took over the reins of his place in the first team.

Buckley was relieved of any management role with the first team and has been placed on the reserves. Martin's methods have transformed the team from last year's relegation figures to this season's promotion contenders.

Chris Kelly, the Leatherhead player-coach, who was fined

transfer list earlier this week, has resolved his problems with the **dropped, fine**

Poland will play

Poland has confirmed that it will take part in the World Cup Finals in Spain in June, the official announcement has been prepared. It said the Polish Football Association sent a letter to the International Football Federation last week asking to be entered in the tournament. Two Polish officials would represent the World Cup draw in London.

Garry Thompson, the Manchester United striker, Coventry collegian Tommy Lee, have been fined two weeks' suspension for missing their third round FA Cup tie with Sheffield Wednesday because of club discipline.

Nottingham Forest manager Peter Taylor said he would be prepared to ask Roy Bowyer to resign for the return to Sunderland today, moved to Roker Park a year ago. Taylor said he was "not" a first team footballer. Now he has his way back to the club he said: "a superb sub."

Taylor said: "His experience will be of immense value."

Athletics

Fast race round the park at midnight

Yesterday's Results

33 Export takes
long way
round to finish

By a Special Correspondent
While some drank in the new year and others sang it in, more

Though there were only a few dozen spectators watching the athletes pad along the dark and misty eight-kilometre course it was a fast race for the leaders.

reg of the round the world race, from Mar Del Plata to Portsmouth, it was announced yesterday.

She was despatched on November 13 during the second leg from Cape Town to Auckland and arrived at St Denis, Remon Island on board a ship. She will be transferred to another bound.

the eventual winner being Australian marathon champion David Chettle, a carpenter living in Croydon who returned 25

[illegible]

The crew of the Australian yacht, Szechuan, celebrated the New Year with one eye on the

to win. Their bows were well placed to win the **Spinnaker** to Holst's vast applause. The Swedish team was able to finish the 1000-metre race in 10 minutes 50 seconds, a record for their team. Several weeks can still be won by Sweden, but the team is expected to be virtually beaten in winds of less than five knots.

Holst said: "The **Spinnaker** is a German motor cycle. Kaspari's **Alaska** was one of the first of the 10,000 km Paris to Berlin race. It was a 1000 cc machine of the 1930s. The **DR** 1500 was in collision with another motor cycle a few hours ago. It was a 1000 cc machine, but was not interviewed by police, he was able to reject the race, in which he rode, 152 motor cycles, which was a record.

Letter from Somerset

A coat of white for Fluffy's Volcano

Somerset is divided into three parts, of two of which the recent invasion of Avon, which all Somerset people do, must be coming to pay the price. There is a beautiful, remote part, surrounding the Brendon Hills. This is where the green hills of Somerset go sliding to the sea. There is the plain, more commonly called the Levels, stretching from Wells to Taunton, give or take a hammock, always the first to be flooded. And there is the Somerset uplands, towards Bristol and Bath, which used to be considered the industrial part of the county, because it held the coalfields.

Although the last mine was closed nearly 10 years ago, you can still detect the difference between the agricultural and the industrial background. High Littleton, where I happily live, still has the ring of a mining village, not the coarseness of a chocolate-box cover.

The accents are sharper, the courtesies grimmer, but for business, not for decoration. Old Mr. Hildrew died last year, a veteran miner, a tough, genial old bird. His son is the village book-maker. One of his grandsons is an admirable local preacher. Now my own father began as a miner, up in Durham, and became a person, so I can sense something of the tradition.

Fathers would have been shocked at the idea of "making a book", yet he would look after his brothers' whippers when asked. Whippers were the favourite wherever miners dined, and much money passed on their table. They were responsible for the sales, hangingly told, at garden parties in the 30s, that the miners were claiming public assistance, starving their families, and buying streaks for their dogs.

Our dog, Ducky, is mostly whippet, and can beat any dog in the village across the field in front of our cottage.

Alan Gibson

The Walesas' Christmas — with one face missing

Continued from page 1

persuade him to appear on television for propaganda purposes, Mrs Walesa has interceded with workers on his behalf. Shortly before Christmas she told men at the Gdansk shipyard to end their strike. "My husband is still chairman of this union. Do nothing until he gives you

instructions", she said. And they complied.

In a Sunday Times interview he spoke of his wife and admitting that he was no saint, he said that he believed Danusia was the ideal woman for him. "Had I another wife, now I would be divorced or else killed with a kitchen knife. So I have no reason to betray her. Besides, we have six children. Doesn't it show that

we make love well. Much and to be far from her many weeks. Like I did recently. I told you that I am no saint."

Lech Walesa has continuously emphasized his religious convictions. "The church is for us a symbol of struggle", he said. He wears an image of the Black Virgin

on his jacket and has been photographed carrying a picture of the Pope and the Black Virgin that hangs on the wall of their home.

"The Black Virgin has always been a sort of blessing for us Poles", he said. It is a blessing now sought by Lech and Danusia Walesa and their children and the Polish people.



Auld lang syne: The Walesas together a year ago

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions
Victorian paintings, Roy Miles Gallery, 6 Duke Street, St James's, 10.30 to 1.
Exhibition and sale of football programmes from Second World War to today, Ivanhoe Hotel, Bloomsbury Street, WC1, 10.30 to 4.

Spirit of Christmas, Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, E2, 10 to 6.
Recent prints by six British painters, Tate Gallery, 10 to 5.
Last chance to see
Photographs by Heather Angel, RFS National Centre of Photography, Octagon, Milson Street, Bath, 10 to 4.45.

Solution of Puzzle No 15,718

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